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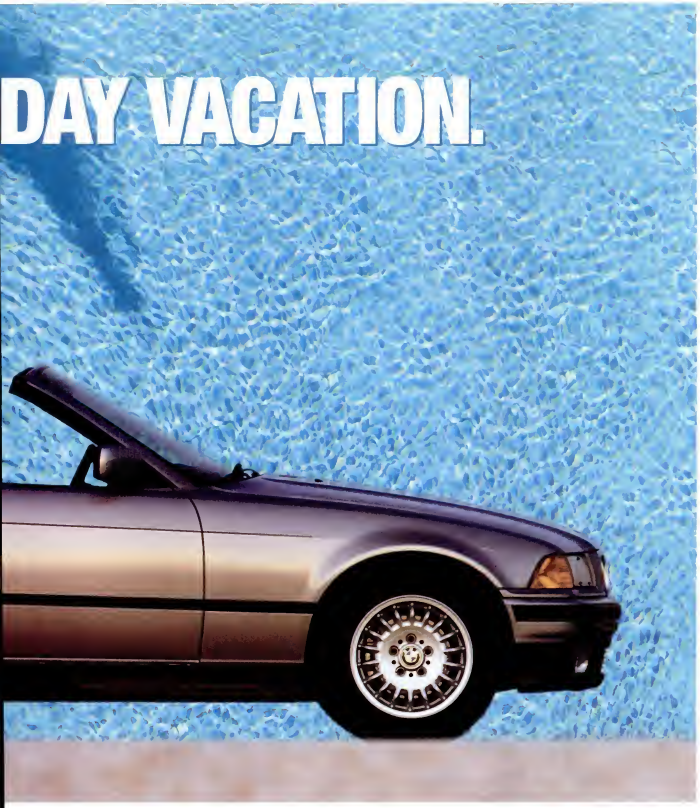
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Cover photography of Joan Rivers shot for Orange Coast *magazine by Charles William Bush. Styling by David Dangle. Prop styling by Stephen Pappas. Layout and design by Leslie Freidson Lawicki. Hair by Robert Chiu for Gerard Bollei. Makeup by Adele Fass Licata for Pierre Michel. Dress courtesy of Pamela Deunis for Barneys New York. Shoes by Manolo Blahnik. Jewelry by Joan Rivers Classics Collection. Special thanks to Hotel Plaza Athenee, New York City.*



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School on wheels

With her white hair and friendly blue eyes, Ann Robinson looks like she could be somebody's grandmother. She's not the type one usually encounters at cheap motels and parks replete with drug addicts and vagrants, but that's often where she can be found. Robinson teaches homeless children in a school on wheels.

Every school day, Robinson drives her van to parks, libraries and motels—anywhere in Orange County where there are homeless children hungry for knowledge. "We've had classes on park benches and in parking lots," Robinson says. "We've even [held] school on the sidewalk."

Robinson's mobile classroom is part of an innovative program sponsored by the Orange County Department of Education called Project HOPE (Homeless Outreach Program for Education). A San Juan Capistrano resident and longtime teacher, Robinson started the program in 1989 after she saw that homeless children were being deprived of not only a real home, but also of getting an education. Since most homeless children move so frequently among hotel rooms, parks, cars and the streets, they are unable to attend regular school. So Robinson decided to bring school to them. "In the beginning, I conducted class out of the back of my car," she says.

Since its inception, the program has expanded, adding two teachers and two vans equipped with school supplies as well as a computer.

The teachers realize times are tough when enrollment climbs. During the 1992-93 school year, Robinson taught as many as 50 to 60 children per week. Newer students have parents who have lost their jobs and subsequently their houses. But through the program, Robinson meets kids in all situations: some students have studied with her just once before their parents were able to find a home, while others have stayed in the program throughout an entire school year.

Despite their hardships, the homeless children await Robinson's visits with anticipation and always greet her with smiles. During the short time they spend with her—usually just once a week for a few hours—students listen intently as Robinson reviews their completed assignments. Afterward, each child is allowed time on the computer to practice educational programs. "Seeing them once a week may not seem like much, but before they had us they had nothing," Robinson points out. "They're really excited to have someone come to teach them. Living in a park is boring. School takes on a whole different meaning," she explains. "They know that part of being a child is going to school, and they really miss it."

Homeless children have an appreciation for school that regular students often lack. Ask a homeless child what he or she likes best about school, says Robinson, and you won't get the usual responses of "recess" or "lunch." Instead, these children are excited to learn, and reply with answers of "math" and "reading." "Our meetings are always very warm and friendly. We don't talk about their home situations," Robinson says.

Project HOPE also offers a school through the YWCA in Orange for homeless children who are living in a temporary shelter, such as a motel room, where they can be picked up by van each morning. Unfortunately, the HOPE school currently accommodates only 18 children. The remaining children must make appointments for a weekly visit with Robinson, who teaches at the school in the morning, and then drives out to meet the homeless in the afternoon.

Project HOPE's goal is to keep homeless children from falling behind so they can return to their grade level at a mainstream school as soon as they have a home.



"We're there to reassure them they're important and intelligent," says Robinson. "They may have lost their homes, but they haven't lost those qualities. We stress that education is so important, it comes to you." For more information, contact Project HOPE at 800-649-5522. Both the Project HOPE school and the outreach program are free.

—*Kathryn Bold*

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Belle of the Ball for a Song

Step through the front doors of Costa Mesa's A Nite on the Town, and you're surrounded by spectacular glitz and lavish color. It may even take a moment for your eyes to adjust to the brilliant light that dances off the shimmering sequins. Let your eyes feast: You don't have to buy anything here—if you don't want to.

Renting formal wear—the same service that has been available to men for decades—is conveniently available to ladies. A Nite on the Town is a full-service formal wear rental shop that makes dressing for a special occasion a pleasure rather than an expensive undertaking. "Men rent their tuxes," says one customer, "why can't we do the same [with dresses]?"

A Nite on the Town is stocked with dress sizes ranging from size 2 to 24 (Pat Dunlap, the store's manager, says she's even fitted a few size 1s and 0s on occasion), and styles to outfit a woman for any formal or semiformal occasion. And Dunlap should know: she's rented a variety of gowns to be worn at luncheons, reunions and even presidential galas. Last winter, the store furnished 20 dresses for invitees to President Clinton's inaugural ball. The shop also boasts a large assortment of accessories to complement any gown chosen.

"We cater to women who always want something new and exciting to wear," says Dunlap. The shop has as many as 550 dresses on display with new styles arriving almost daily, especially at the start of each season. One customer rented three different dresses to wear to a benefit auction, a Christmas party, and a New Year's Eve affair.

One dress in particular, the shop's most luxurious and expensive, is a black, beaded gown with silver embroidery, designed by Bob Mackie. The dress' $290 rental rate and $1,500 purchase price have hardly diminished its appeal: The gown has been leased for a high-school prom (a function for which about 150 dresses are rented), and again recently for actor and comedian Eddie Murphy's wedding.

Even if you don't leave the store with that particular gown or even one like it, just the experience of trying on the glamorous dresses is a treat for customers, says Dunlap. "It's as fun as playing dress up."

The average rental rate for dresses ranges from $40 to $180, and each piece at A Nite on the Town carries a tag that indicates the last date the dress was rented. Yet as you begin to sift through the selection, many of the tags are blank. "We are the only rental boutique with all new, seasonal dresses," explains Dunlap. The store also sells out-of-season gowns at 50 percent off the regular price. All rented dresses are dry-cleaned and may be altered before they are worn.

One bride, who chose to remain anonymous lest anyone criticize her for getting married in a rented gown, says that shopping at A Nite on the Town is "like being in a candy store without the calories." The bride's decision to rent her gown was based on practicality. Instead of spending her entire budget on a gown she'd wear only once, she decided to invest in expensive keepsake earrings. The dress she chose, a design by Jessica McClintock, is an off-the-shoulder gown with a lace bustier and a fitted silk bodice that rents for $150. Bridesmaid's dresses are also available to rent for around $60. "We've rented gowns to mothers of brides and mothers of grooms as well as other family members," Dunlap says.

Many of A Nite on the Town's dresses have also been rented by beauty-pageant contestants. Even the store's few swimsuits for sale have been designed with pageants in mind by former Miss America, Cheryl Prewitt Salem. For more information, call A Nite on the Town at 557-9088. —*Kevin Tuer*

Only in O.C.: The Civic-Minded Realtor

Have you ever heard of a realtor giving away his precious commission—or even a part of it—to help out city government? It's happening in Huntington Beach.

That rumbling you hear is Howard Jarvis turning over in his grave. But then again, old-line taxfighters such as Jarvis never got a chance to meet new-wave civic supporters such as Dale Erwin.

Erwin became a realtor in Huntington Beach after retiring from a 20-year career with the Los Angeles Police Department. When he heard his hometown of Huntington Beach was considering cutting back on its police and fire department staff, he vowed to donate $1,000 to the city coffers from each of his real estate commissions over the ensuing 12 months.

Erwin may very well save half a job on the force(s). "If I give it a good solid year, I would anticipate a level of 10 to 30 deals, so that's probably $10,000 to $30,000."

If his quest to help Huntington Beach corresponds with your quest to buy or sell, you can find Erwin at Century 21 Beachside Realtors, or call him at 969-6100.

—*Eric Eberwein*


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A New Spin On Entertainment Shopping

The plan to assemble the right blend of stores for an exciting local marketplace is complete: The Virgin Megastore has hit Orange County, and shopping for movies, music, and other entertainment products couldn't be more fun or more intriguing.

Opened only since November, the 27,000-square-foot, two-level Virgin Megastore figures to be the finishing touch to Costa Mesa's Triangle Square complex that already includes an array of popular shops and restaurants, including the Gap, NIKE TOWN, and Sfuzzi.

This Virgin Megastore location, the second in the United States, represents the latest venture of Richard Branson, founder and chairman of the Virgin Group of companies. Branson's Virgin Retail Group already owns and operates a number of megastores in Europe, Australia and Japan, and has plans to open a chain of 40 stores throughout the United States within the next three years—an undertaking that began last December with the unveiling of the Los Angeles store on Sunset Boulevard.

Orange County's Virgin Megastore features an enormous assortment of goods and attractions, including more than 100,000 music titles, videotapes and laser discs complete with viewing stations, compact disc listening posts, computer game software, and an in-store disc jockey.

"The Virgin Megastore is not a passive place where people come just to purchase music," says Ian Duffell, president of Virgin Retail Asia/Pacific. "The store has been designed to interact with the customer in a very exciting manner."

In addition to the extensive assortment of videos and laser discs for sale—the largest collection of its kind in the country, including the Los Angeles location—one of Virgin Megastore's many premier attractions will be a 5,000-square-foot "Excellent Adventure" section devoted entirely to showcasing virtual reality games.

"We wanted to take the drudgery out of shopping and make it fun," says Triangle Square partner Richard J. Shapiro. "[Virgin Megastore] is a very unique store, unlike any other in Orange County." —*K.T.*

Radio for the Vietnamese

Radio has long been an excellent and educational way to transmit news, entertainment and sports information to large groups of people. Why is it then that the Vietnamese community, a culture that stresses education, has no radio station in its own language?

Since 1973, Orange County has replaced Long Beach as the home to the largest population of Vietnamese in one community, with concentrations in Santa Ana, Westminster and parts of Huntington Beach, says Garret Gin, director of the Asian news service at Imada Wong Communication Group Inc.

Knowing this, John Douglas, president of Douglas Broadcasting Inc. and owner of several ethnic stations in San Jose and surrounding areas, believed programming for the Vietnamese community in Orange County made good business sense. Douglas knew that Los Angeles-area stations KAZN 1300 AM and KMAX 107.1 FM already had Asian programming that could be heard in the northern and central areas of Orange County. But "those stations don't have a very strong frequency," says Douglas, who decided he could cash in on the audiences that were missing out by establishing an Asian station.

Now, thanks to Douglas, that station has materialized. Since early July, Little Saigon Radio, in conjunction with KWIZ 96.7 FM, presents exclusive programming for the Vietnamese community from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. every weekday. The programming schedule includes news, weather, sports, and commentaries on finance, science and medicine, as well as traditional Vietnamese and American music.



Although Little Saigon Radio has some experience in television broadcasting, this is their first venture into radio broadcasting. "There were a lot of reasons why Little Saigon Radio didn't get into radio first, primarily because of [a lack of] resources," Gin says.

The Santa Ana-based station has all its personnel on the premises, in contrast to other ethnic stations that import most of their programming and personnel from other agencies. According to Trang Nguyen, program director for Little Saigon Radio, the news staff, as well as all the personnel for the programs, are Vietnamese-Americans. This means station personnel didn't have to teach the language or traditions to any of its DJs or behind-the-scenes employees. "The unique thing about this [station] is that the programming is all based locally," says Gin.

Since its first test program on June 30, the station has received some 200 to 300 calls in response to the programming. "We have gotten a very positive response," says Nguyen. "We get more than 300 calls a day with some people asking for a 24-hour Vietnamese radio service."

—*Shraddha Swaroop*

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ROEDERER ESTATE

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Coastwatch

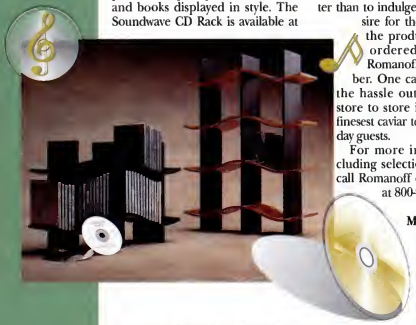
SMART STORAGE

Holiday gifts of personal electronics have one requirement: they have to be state-of-the-art, and that same rule applies to storage units. Forget about stacking your treasured compact discs (CDs) on boring shelves. Chicago-based Modulus has gone beyond linear storage with its "Soundwave CD Rack."

The rack puts a new spin on housing discs and cassette tapes with a modular unit that maximizes designer Thomas Stender's wave motif. Each section holds 72 discs or 44 cassettes so that titles are easy to read. The stackable wooden frames come in all black ($30.00) or black with cherry veneer ($40.00).

Modulus also puts a new twist on book storage with "BookBend" bookends. The design employs stainless-steel rods with rubber tips that curve naturally to adjust to varying shelf heights, and may be used between books, or as shelf ends. Attractive and versatile, BookBend Bookends retail for $15.00 and are available in silver or black.

Whether you give them as gifts or treat yourself to a present, Modulus' products help keep CDs or cassettes and books displayed in style. The Soundwave CD Rack is available at Hold Everything, Costa Mesa, 540-7155; and Santa Ana, 542-9349. BookBend bookends are also available at Z Galleries, Santa Ana, 541-0258.



MAIL-ORDER PALATE PLEASER

Retailers, look out. Is there a product available on store shelves these days that can't also be purchased by picking up a telephone? Caviar, perhaps? Try again. This holiday season, buying fine caviar is as easy as dialing for delivery of a large pepperoni pizza.

The new service comes courtesy of Romanoff International Inc., the purveyor of an assortment of fine caviars, including sturgeon, salmon, whitefish and lumpfish.

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For those who'd love nothing better than to indulge their heart's desire for the freshest caviar, the product may now be ordered directly from Romanoff via an 800 number. One call takes some of the hassle out of going from store to store in search of the finest caviar to serve your holiday guests.

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GRAPHICS/STEPHEN M. JOHN

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Although rearranging sofas, ottomans and sec-tionals will always be a tedious chore, shopping for a unique piece of furniture has never been easier. A new computer program now takes the guesswork out of searching for custom-made furnishings by allowing customers to preview various frame, upholstery and color combinations before placing an order.

The recently developed Preview Computer at Higgins Furniture Shops in Orange features a 21-inch screen and includes software that displays the entire line of factory styles. All the information is pre-programmed for immediate viewing. This latest advancement in decorating technology illustrates the piece exactly the way the customer envisions it, as well as how the manufacturer will produce it. Since the software is also used by the factory where the furniture is built, customers can even check on the availability of their particular selection.

Both of Higgins' Orange locations offer use of the Preview Computer at no extra charge to customers. For more information, call Higgins Furniture at 538-1159 or 538-6181. —*Kevin Tuer*

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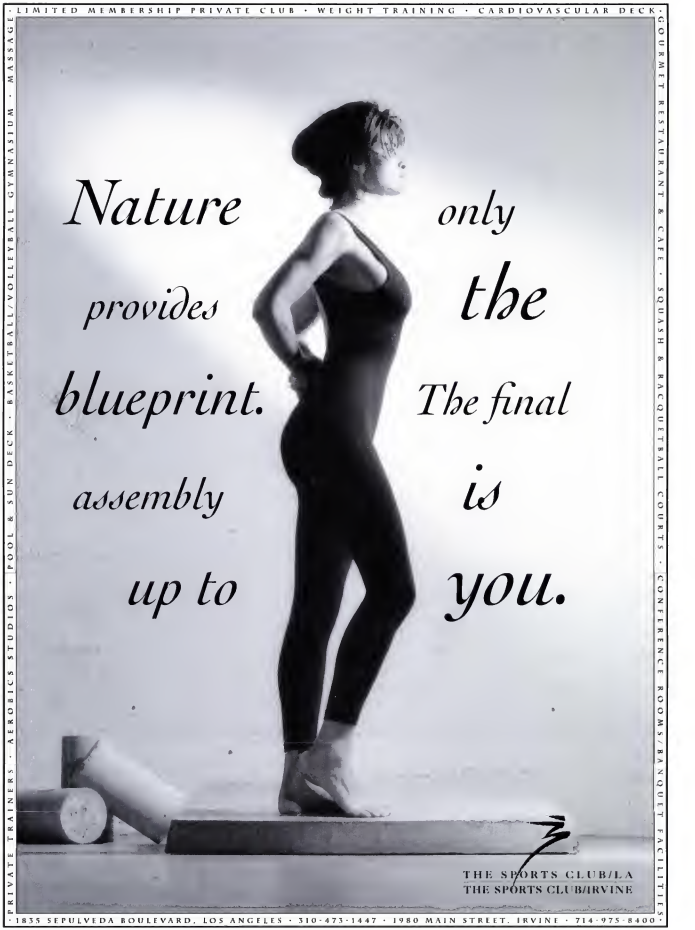
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OC Style: Astrology Predictions

It hardly seems possible we're getting so close to the end of the century. Surely 1994 will be a year of wonders, a year of hopes fulfilled, a year of achievement realized. Wouldn't it be wonderful to really know what the coming year holds?

Orange Coast couldn't wait to find out, so we asked local astrologers to cast Orange County's horoscope. Here's their take on what's in store for '94.

JULIE ANNA HILL

It's no mistake that Orange County is home to Disneyland. Perfectionism, idealism and harmony, plus keeping the good times rolling, personify the former kingdom of the Irvine family. If the Irvines, among others, are Orange County's aristocracy, then real estate is the queen with the poisoned apple. The real estate boom proved to be the bite from the apple that took so-o-o long to leave its poison in the system. The common folk are now trying to find an antidote, while the beautiful Snow Whites lie in deep sleep and the handsome Princes wander across the land in leased Mercedes-Benzes, trying to find happiness once again after the fall of the old order.

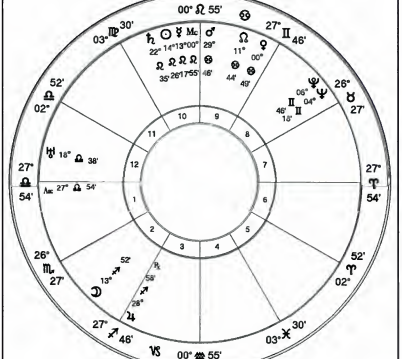
The good news: Belt tightening may be over at last. The stars say we're down to the last notch, so we can begin the expansion process once again. After alternating between sleeping and wandering aimlessly, Orange County has awakened to the fact that the magic formula has lost its effectiveness.

White-collars workers have left office buildings for home offices with fax machines and modems, or have opened mailbox franchises with what cash they could gather in the depressed Nineties. Many will successfully launch and sustain home-based businesses, become more satisfied with public schools, and give up the notion of the constantly revolving home-improvement loan. Their new religion: Bigger is *not* better. Each night at the dinner table, parents will teach their children that beauty within is as important as her counterpart.

Conversations will turn from designer labels to personal satisfaction at home and at work. Ah, the Nineties. How refreshing.

But what will we do with all that open office space—provide better digs for nonprofit agencies, day-care centers, food services, atriums, rentable conference rooms and churches that don't need church buildings? The answer is anybody's

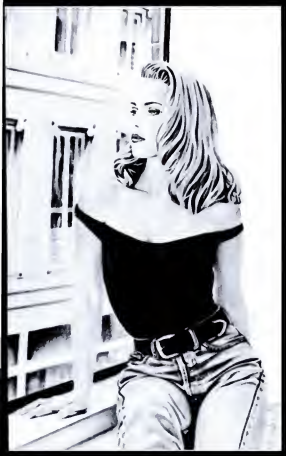
ORANGE COUNTY'S ASTROLOGICAL CHART



ASTROLOGICAL CHART BY LAURA DESJARDINS

Orange County was founded under the sun sign of Leo on August 6, 1889. This Leo influence means that the county has strong leadership, business and organizational abilities that keep it in the professional forefront. Orange County also has a strong sense of honor, a good reputation and a good heart when it comes to charity. The county is known for a conservative belief system and innovation in education. Influenced by the moon in Sagittarius, Orange County is a melting pot for foreigners, especially in Laguna Beach. There are many foreign businesses in the county, as well as foreign money. Orange County's Libra rising brings out our social skills and festive nature. Our's is among the most beautiful counties in the country, not only because of its beaches and mountains, but also because of its people. With Venus as our ruling planet, we're looking good!

—Laura DesJardins



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guess. Deep within the collective psyche of one of the prettiest places on God's green earth lies the talent to make the most of one's resources. The new credos: a new definition of the good life and how to make the most of a downward spiral.

Personal Notes for 1994: Aquarius, Libra and Gemini need to remain flexible. Pisces, Cancer and Scorpio will see tangible results for their efforts. Leo, Sagittarius and Aries will still have some soul-searching to do. Aquarius, Virgo and Capricorn will expand their social horizons.

Fighting trends can be a losing proposition for all concerned. Swimming upstream is okay for salmon but results in gridlock for the rest of us. Hint: From now until the end of 1995, learn to play it safe while still being innovative.

Julie Anna Hill, author of America's Best Psychics *and* The New Psychic Directory, *has been practicing and teaching astrology since 1973. A native Californian and former Orange County resident who now resides in San Diego, Hill says her car knows the way to Orange County blindfolded, but going south it needs her input. She is available for personal consultation at 619-454-8941.*

PAT ROGERS

1994 begins with many legislative initiatives aimed at pumping new life into Orange County's government, economy and future prosperity. All looks well in January. In February, however, many brave, new ideas will hit a snag. Unseen influences are working to protect self-interest. Expect new attempts to assist the needy and address problems related to bodies of water such as beaches and wetlands, and even our drinking water. Other efforts relating to institutions, including jails, hospitals and schools are stalled. Rather than government doing the tough job of cutting back and trying to do more with less, the burden will fall on institutions to solve the problems they did not create.

The real-estate industry will continue to experience major changes in the way business is conducted. Resources will be consolidated, and people will be willing to take less profit (rather than no profit), cut prices, streamline operations and find whatever loopholes necessary to make a sale. No significant increase in county property values is anticipated.

The job market remains flat, and we could see a record-high unemployment rate at midyear.

Even with the challenges ahead in 1994, Orange County continues to be a rich, prosperous and thriving entity. Its future is ever-bright, and the county will always enjoy the best the Earth has to offer. After so many decades of expansion, we are surprised by this new and necessary period of contraction. If we can see this as part of a natural cycle, our fears will be somewhat abated. We are learning to appreciate our resources and put them to their best use. We will gain new understanding of the value of our water, land and people. In 1994, we will set goals that add more quality to life rather than just increased profit.

Pat Rogers lives and works in Huntington Beach. Her "Cosmic Clock" forecasts can be heard Monday through Friday on 95.9 FM KEZY radio at 7:30 a.m. Weekly forecasts and beginning astrology class information is available toll-free. 956-6914.

LINDY BURKE

1994 will be a time of surprises, some confusing, some disappointing and some enlightening. Orange County will need to change its identity, but will be blocked in its attempt to do so resulting in frustration. Conservatism will become more important than ever in this most conservative of counties, but in a new sense. Look for its influence in the responsible use of natural resources and in restructuring lifestyles more prudently.

The economy may see some improvement during the first four months of 1994, but the recession will raise its ugly head once again and will be strongly felt after June. There is also danger ahead: If Orange County does not develop a solid, practical economic foundation, 1995 will hold even greater economic difficulties than the past few years have brought us.

Education and social problems will be areas of focus and concern in the coming year. Orange County must not allow fear to overshadow compassion and service. The county must learn to change and rebuild—which is an exciting challenge indeed.

Lindy Burke has been a professional astrologer specializing in relationships for more than 18 years. Her predictions have been published in Horoscope *magazine,* The Orange County Register, *and the* Los Angeles Times. *Burke has studied with some of the county's foremost astrologers, including Rob Hand, Zip Dobyns and Buzz Meyers, and is a member of American Mensa. She has given numerous presentations on astrology. For a personal consultation, call 637-3066.*

LAURA DESJARDINS

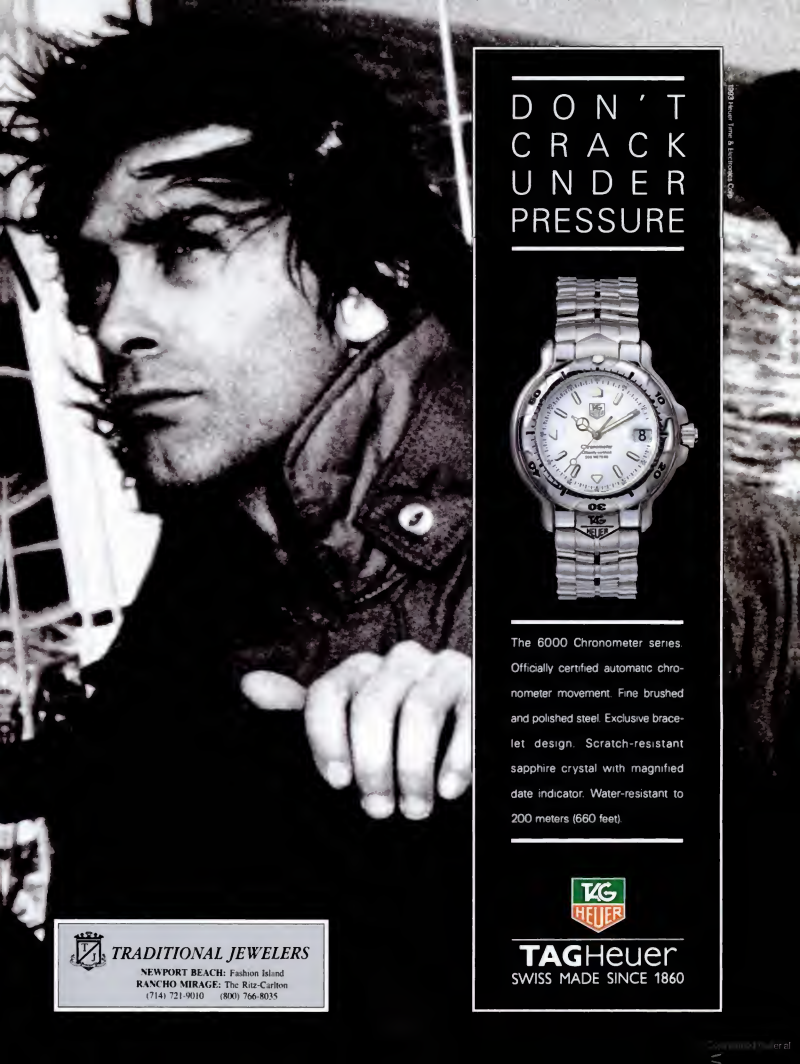
Trends that began in the late fall of 1993 will continue and come to fruition. Past difficulties and financial stress will begin to abate, partly because Orange County's abundant beauty will draw attention to the environment and its beautiful people. The tourism industry will definitely pick up, although real estate will take years to climb out of its slump.

After great turmoil, business and government are about to enter a period of stabilization. Foreign corporations will take greater interest in the area, and the flight of major corporations will come to a halt. Companies that have not yet left will stay. Restructuring of city government and corporations has changed the power structure in the county—there has been a great turnover in who's in control, which is about to level off.

A person—probably a foreigner—destined to be very powerful in Orange County will come to prominence in Spring 1994. He or she will be a key figure in the county's financial recovery.

On a personal level, our values will change dramatically, resulting in a major shift in what we think is important in our lives. This transformation is a positive and beneficial move in the right direction.

Laura Desjardins of Costa Mesa has 20 years' experience as an astrologer. Desjardins specializes in business, relationships and health and her predictions have been published in the Los Angeles Times. *For a personal consultation or to arrange an astrology party, call 850-0219.* —*Compiled by Sunni Bloyd*



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If we'd been around when Victor Frankenstein was building his castle, we'd have done some fabulous Gothic rooms.

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OC Escape: Fiji

It was in the South Pacific near Bligh Water, which separates the Yasawa Island group from Viti Levu, Fiji's largest island, that Captain William Bligh was cast adrift by the rebellious crew of the HMS Bounty. Just a few days after the incident, Bligh, manning a seven-meter-long boat along with 18 loyal crewmen, was chased for several hours by a pair of Fijian war canoes launched from the Yasawas.

With Bligh navigating through a treacherous channel and his weary men straining at the oars, the hapless British sailors eventually outdistanced their determined pursuers. It's fortunate for them and their descendants they did. Otherwise, rather than completing the most celebrated open-boat voyage in history by landing at Timor, they could have been the main course at a Fijian cannibal feast. But that was more than 200 years ago. Today, the Yasawa Islands beckon travelers with their lush tropical beauty, while the natives now subsist on a considerably more civilized diet.



PHOTO MICHAEL JUDGE

PALM TREES AND SUGAR CANE PLANTATIONS BLANKET THE YASAWA ISLANDS.

It wasn't until 1987, after two coups altered the political structure of the Fijian government, that resort development was permitted on this chain of palm-covered volcanic islands. With only two small luxury resorts in operation, one on Yasawa Island and the other on Turtle Island, the Yasawas remain an unexplored haven for adventurous souls and romantic hearts.

The Yasawa Island Lodge, an $18.5 million, Australian-owned resort that opened two-and-a-half years ago, is tucked away on its own beach on the northern-most island that lends its name to the entire chain. The fledgling resort accommodates only 15 couples or so in its handful of *bures* (thatched cottages) built to resemble traditional Fijian bungalows—only significantly more plush. Indeed, the deluxe cottage suites contain a full range of amenities, including spacious kitchens with refrigerators, large bathrooms with oversized showers, and incredible views of a lagoon that reflects so many shades of blue, it looks like Van Gogh's palette run amuck. This kind of luxury commands a premium price, but its patrons are treated to the kind of lifestyle regularly described by Robin Leach.

Guests are transported to the island hideaway by a small chartered aircraft; the breathtaking flight across the coral-colored Bligh Water takes only 30 minutes. A welcoming committee greets you with native songs, and provides fresh towels, floral leis, and tropical drinks to get you in the island spirit. The entire ensemble, visitors and staff alike, boards the *bula* bus, a vintage World War II truck customized with a thatched roof, for the 10-minute ride to the lodge. *Bula* is a Fijian greeting, and it is repeated frequently both on the Yasawa isles and on the mainland of Viti Levu.

Built on land owned by the Bukama village, the lodge is staffed mostly by villagers. Guests are greeted by name throughout their stay, a personal touch that maintains the casual, relaxed atmosphere of the island. The serene ambience is further enhanced by a pilgrimage to a picturesque village that features a small but lively shell market.

Water sports enthusiasts enjoy snorkeling and scuba diving at nearby Paradise Beach, while other coastal explorers can discover the magical caves at Sawa-i-Lau. Just a half-hour from the lodge by boat are the limestone caves of Sawa-i-Lau, which were featured in the movies *The Blue Lagoon* and *Return to the Blue Lagoon*. The main cave is illuminated by a crevice at the top; inside is a deep, clear pool that is a perfect spot for a refreshing swim. A small, underwater opening leads to another cave steeped in Fijian lore. According to legend, a young chief hid his sweetheart here when her family betrothed her to another. The chief brought her food each day until they could both escape to

the safety of another island.

Take a leisurely drive away from the resort to see the sights of native Fiji: the miles and miles of sugarcane fields and the villagers who carry machetes and walk great distances along the berm, trudging from the fields to their *bures*. Every now and then, you might catch a glimpse of a mongoose darting across the narrow roadway. And it's not uncommon here to see the skies darken due to slash-and-burn farming. Fijians drive on the opposite side of the road; caution, therefore, must be exercised by foreign drivers and pedestrians alike.

Save your appetite for the end of the day. Dinners at the resort are global affairs, with guests from the United States seated with visitors from Australia, New Zealand and England. Enjoy a traditional *lovo* feast, which is prepared by digging pits in the sandy soil and burying in them generous portions of beef, fish, lamb and pork wrapped tightly in banana leaves. The sumptuous barbecued entrees are accompanied by tasty salads and an assortment of delicious tropical fruits.

While *lovo* is considered the ultimate Fijian meal, *kava* is the popular national drink. Nowhere is it better experienced than at a formal *yagona* ceremony, performed at births, marriages, deaths and other significant events. A special invitation by Ilami Nabiali, a local constable, to meet a village chief qualifies as such an event.



FIJI OFFERS ROMANTIC SECLUSION.

Back on the Mainland, the drive to Natadola Beach (an international surfing mecca) from Nadi, Viti Levu's second largest city, takes nearly an hour by car. The beach itself is located about 15 minutes from the main road, and the dirt road turnoff is easy to miss. Nabiali's village, Sanasana, is a short five-minute jaunt by car up a steep hill with a panoramic vista of white sands and turquoise waters.

As Nabiali proudly points out his village's Methodist church and the elevated site where the late chief's *bure* once stood before its destruction by Cyclone Oscar 10 years ago, he provides a running commentary on local customs and manners. For instance, it is impolite for visitors to wear hats in the villages; this is a privilege reserved for the chief. It is also disrespectful for women to wear immodest clothing in public, and shoes must be taken off before entering a *bure*. In Sanasana, as in many other Fijian villages, *bures* are being replaced by contemporary housing to better withstand the devastation of cyclical storms.

A *sevu sevu*, or gift, is presented by visitors to the village chief. Usually, the offering is a bundle of dried *yagona* roots, which come from an indigenous pepper plant. A powder derived from it is mixed with water in a hand-carved wooden bowl, and *kava*, a diluted, brackish solution, looks as appetizing as a mud cocktail gone bad.

As the *kava* is being prepared—the powder is formed into a small ball and strained through what looks like a well-worn sock—Nabiali bows his head and says a prayer, his solemn incantation officially welcoming the strangers to his village. His uncle's house is large by island standards, and at the moment provides shelter for his extended family. The main room is sparsely decorated with handwoven mats, photographs, and a large *tapa*—a wallhanging made from the water-soaked bark of the paper mulberry—that dominates the interior.

Once the *kava* is ready, it is served in a coconut shell cup. Before drinking the brown liquid, the recipient claps his hands, says "*bula*," and then swallows the concoction in one swift gulp. Hands are clapped by the assemblage three times, and the cup is passed back for the ritual to be repeated by the others. The drink's taste is difficult to describe, but its effects are not. Although *kava* contains no alcohol, it strangely numbs the lips and tongue and induces a mildly euphoric state.

As in most villages, there are no television sets, no electricity, no automobiles and no video games. But make no mistake, this is not a deprived society. The people here are among the friendliest and happiest anywhere, and they exist in a contented lifestyle that is rare.

Indeed, there may come a time when the vast sugarcane plantations that blanket the Fiji Islands are intersected by massive freeways, and the simplicity of village life is gobbled up by the complexities of metropolitan living. That time may not be far off. Enjoy the simplicity Fiji has to offer while you can.

Here, as in most villages, there are no television sets, no electricity, no automobiles and no video games.

For more information on the Fiji Islands, contact the Fiji Visitors Bureau at 5777 West Century Boulevard, Suite 220, Los Angeles, CA 90045, or call 310-568-1616; fax 310-670-2318.

Polynesian Airlines, the national airline of Western Samoa, flies weekly from Los Angeles to Nadi, on the Fijian island of Viti Levu. For more information or reservations, call 800-592-7100.

For further details on Yasawa Island Lodge, contact S.H. Enterprises at 800-441-6880 or by fax at 408-685-8903. Write to the sales agent at 520 Monterey Drive, Rio del Mar, CA 95003.

Nadi offers several resort hotels near the airport, including the popular Regent of Fiji and the Sheraton-Fiji Resort. Contact your travel agent for complete information.

Scuba divers interested in exploring the rich coral reefs of Beqa Lagoon may contact the Marline Bay Resort at P.O. Box 112, Deuba, Fiji Islands, or call 800-542-FIJI. —*Keith Tuber*

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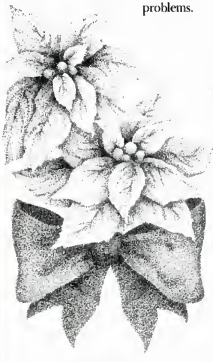
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Guesstimates

December presents you with a Chinese menu full of questions. Column A asks you how to decorate the Christmas tree this year. Column B requires you to remember your inlaws' clothing sizes and color preferences. Column C wonders how you are ever going to pay for everything. Once again, Guesstimates come to the rescue. Here are this month's solutions to life's little problems.



GIVE 'EM A POINSETTIA

In spite of the fact they have a reputation for being poisonous, poinsettias have been America's favorite holiday plant for generations. But according to the Society of American Florists, that widely held "fact" isn't a fact at all.

Unfounded stories that have circulated as far back as 1919 have led Americans to believe the poinsettia is deadly if consumed, despite extensive testing to the contrary. So ingrained is this belief that a national poll of 1,000 Americans conducted by Bruskin/Goldring Research for the Society of American Florists found that only 12 percent of those surveyed know poinsettias are not poisonous. Fifty-three percent wrongly believe poinsettias are toxic if eaten, and 35 percent don't know. Interestingly enough, 36 percent of those who believe poinsettias are poisonous say they got their information from the media.

SAFEGUARD YOUR CREDIT CARDS

During the holiday season, you're more likely to use your credit cards, which puts you at greater risk for being the victim of theft or fraud. *Aide Magazine* suggests these steps to avoid getting burned.

- Carefully check your monthly credit card statement for errors and fraudulent charges as soon as you receive it.
- Report lost or stolen cards as soon as you discover them missing.
- Don't give out your credit card number over the phone unless you initiate the call.
- Never give your credit card account number to anyone unless you're making a purchase, reserving a hotel room or renting a car.
- Keep tabs on your credit cards. Make sure the store clerk destroys any carbon copies, does not make any extra imprints, and returns your card to you before you leave.
- Check the bottom line before you sign. Compare the imprinted and handwritten amounts on your credit card receipt.
- Don't let anyone else use your credit cards.
- Destroy all carbon copies and store old credit receipts and statements in a secure place.



- Do not leave your cards where they might easily be stolen, such as in a hotel room or in your car's glove compartment.

SLIP SLIDING AWAY

This time of year, even sunny Southern California is likely to see some of that wet stuff known to the rest of the country as rain. A stormy day and a set of worn tires adds up to hydroplaning conditions, which can spell disaster for the unwary.

Hydroplaning happens when the water in front of a car's tires builds up faster than the car's weight can push it out of the way. This buildup causes the car to rise up and ride on a thin layer of water between the tires and the road. The car may completely lose contact with the road and skid, or drift across the water's surface.

To protect yourself against hydroplaning, make sure your car is fitted with a good set of tires, and make certain tires are not past their prime; worn tires don't have a deep enough tread to allow water to escape from underneath them. Other ways to prevent hydroplaning are simple: Slow down on wet roads, steer clear of puddles and try to drive in the tire tracks left by cars ahead of you.

If you find yourself hydroplaning, don't panic. Avoid sudden braking or turning, which may cause skidding. Instead, ease up on the gas and allow the car to slow down until you can get a feel for the road again. If you have to brake, do so by lightly pumping the brake pedal.

—*Sunni Bloyd*

ILLUSTRATIONS: LINDA FASER CLARK

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CALENDAR

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PHOTO/LISA ADAR

SPECIAL EVENTS

MADRIGAL DINNERS, December 3-15. The UC Irvine Chamber Singers re-create a 16th century Yule banquet. Fine Arts Village Theatre, UCI campus, Irvine. For more information, call 856-6616.



THE UCI CHAMBER SINGERS' 16TH CENTURY CHRISTMAS BANQUET

LAGUNA NIGUEL HOLIDAY PARADE & FESTIVAL, December 11. The fourth annual parade features two Marine Corps bands. The day-long arts and crafts festival also includes food, music and children's entertainment. Crown Valley Community Park, 29751 Crown Valley Parkway, Laguna Niguel. 362-4300.

FIRST NIGHT IN FULLERTON, December 31. The New Year's Eve celebration includes live entertainment, magic shows, events for children and fireworks. Downtown Fullerton. 738-6578.

SWEDISH CHRISTMAS FAIR, December 5. The annual fair promotes Swedish culture with traditional handicrafts, foods and entertainment. Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center, 1845 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa. 759-9196.

CELEBRITY AUCTION, December 5. Tom and Roseanne Arnold host a live celebrity auction and eating contest to benefit their foundation against childhood sexual abuse. Planet Hollywood, 1641 W. Sunflower Avenue, Costa Mesa. 471-7750.

NIKE TOWN DECORATE A SHOE CONTEST, December 4. A holiday party unveils the winners of the contest. 1875B Newport Boulevard, Costa Mesa. 642-6363.

MERVYN'S MUSICAL MORNINGS, December 18. "Happy Snappy Holiday," featuring a children's choir, dancers from the Coast Ballet Theatre and carol sing-alongs. Orange County Performing Arts Center, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 755-5799.

THEATER

ORANGE COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER. December 21 through **January 2, 1994,** *Guys and Dolls,* the Broadway musical in which Runyonesque gangsters Sky Masterson and Nathan Detroit gamble on virtually anything. 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 556-2121.

SOUTH COAST REPERTORY. December 1, "Day Without Art," a collaborative effort to raise funds for AIDS research. Through **December 26,** *A Christmas Carol,* the holiday classic in which miser Ebenezer Scrooge is taught the true spirit of Christmas. Mainstage. Through **December 5,** *The Company of Heaven,* the world premier of a new drama in which inexplicable visions disrupt two strangers' lives. Second Stage. 655 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 957-4033.

IRVINE BARCLAY THEATRE. December 5, *Babes in Toyland,* a musical. 4242 Campus Drive, Irvine. For more information, call 854-4646.

LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE. Through **December 12,** *Oliver!,* the musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' rags-to-riches novel. 606 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach. 497-5900.

UC IRVINE. December 2-5, *The Cherry Orchard,* Anton Chekhov's play examining the decline of the Ranevski family at the end of the 19th century. Fine Arts Little Theatre, UCI campus, Irvine. 856-6616.



THE ALWAYS-POPULAR MUSICAL *GUYS AND DOLLS* STARTS DECEMBER 21.

Alternative Repertory Theater. December 10-24, *A Christmas Memory,* a play based on the book by Truman Capote. 1636 S. Grand Avenue, Santa Ana. 836-7929.

Backstage Theatre. Through **December 19,** "Backstage Christmas," an original work. 1599 Superior Avenue, Suite B-2, Costa Mesa. 646-5887.

Music

Orange County Performing Arts Center. December 6, "Christmas in Ireland," traditional Irish music performed by the Chieftains. **December 13,** "An International Christmas," performed by the Master Chorale of Orange County. **December 15-16,** the Pacific Symphony Orchestra performs Mozart's Overture to *Don Giovanni,* Debussy's *La Mer* and Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 1. **December 17-18,** the Rosemary Clooney Family Christmas Show, featuring Debby Boone. **December 18,** the Pacific Symphony Orchestra and the Pacific Chorale perform Handel's *Messiah.* **December 19,** "A Glorious Celebration of Christmas," performed by the Pacific Chorale. 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. For more information, call 556-2121.

PHOTO/JOHN VIERSWICK



The Chieftans will play Christmas music from their native Ireland.

Irvine Barclay Theatre. December 2, Allard Artists Holiday Celebration, features seasonal music and theater selections performed by soloists and ensembles. **December 3,** entertainer Jack Jones. **December 4,** entertainer Randy Newman. **December 11,** "Holiday Dreams," performed by the Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles. **December 18,** David Benoit and Kenny Rankin. 4242 Campus Drive, Irvine. 854-4646.

The Coach House. December 2, Michael Tomlinson. 33157 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano. 496-8930.

UC Irvine. December 6, the UCI Percussion Ensemble. Fine Arts Concert Hall, UCI campus, Irvine. 856-6616.

Cal State Fullerton. December 3, jazz ensembles. **December 4,** the Pacific Symphony Orchestral Institute Orchestra's all-choir concert. **December 7,** the University Wind Ensemble. **December 9,** the Symphonic Band. **December 10,** the guitar ensemble. **December 11-12,** the Carol Candlelight Dinner & Concert, featuring the University Singers. Little Theatre, 201 E. Chapman Avenue, Fullerton. 773-2434.

Dance

Orange County Performing Arts Center. December 3-12, *The Nutcracker,* performed by the American Ballet Theatre. 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 556-2121.

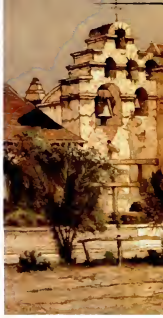
UC Irvine. December 2-5, "New Slate," featuring recent works by faculty and student choreographers. Fine Arts Concert Hall, UCI campus, Irvine. 856-4904.

Cal State Fullerton. December 4, "Navidad Flamenca," the nativity story interpreted through colorful Spanish flamenco dance and music. Plummer Auditorium, 201 E. Chapman Avenue, Fullerton. 773-3371.

Art

Boehm Porcelain Gallery. December 3, a reception for sculptor Helen F. Boehm. **December 4,** Boehm visits her gallery. South Coast Plaza, 3333 Bristol Street, Costa Mesa. 556-4111.

PHOTO COURTESY OF IRVINE MUSEUM



Edwin Deakin's *The Stairway, Mission San Gabriel, California 1897.*

Laguna Art Museum. Through **January 16, 1994,** "75th Anniversary Gifts," a rotating exhibit of the museum's permanent collection, and "Art in Laguna," which focuses on significant artists and works the museum has proudly featured over the past 75 years. Through **February 20, 1994,** "Loners, Mavericks and Dreamers: Art in Los Angeles Before 1900," an exhibit features 60 paintings, drawings, watercolors and prints by early California artists. 307 Cliff Drive, Laguna Beach. For more information, call 494-6531.

Storefront Studio. December 7 through **February 25, 1994,** the Storefront Studio Alumni Exhibition features multimedia works by various artists. Irvine Marketplace, 4255 Campus Drive, Suite 195, Irvine. For more information, call 854-3779.

Sports

Cruise of Lights, December 14-22. A narrated boat tour through the Huntington Harbour showcases elaborately lighted homes decorated for the holidays. Huntington Harbour, Huntington Beach. For more information, call 840-7542.

Complete listings begin on page 190.



PHOTO/LARRY CRANDELL

Festively lighted homes on Huntington Harbor's Cruise of Lights.



Photo: Firooz Zahedi

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OC Guide: Holiday Galas and Balls

The holidays are traditionally the time for Orange County's most elegant parties and celebrations. The champagne flows, ladies glow in velvet and taffeta, and gentlemen, crisply attired in black tie and tails, offer toasts to old friends and the New Year.

1993 is no exception. Numerous festive events crowd the December calendar: balls, galas, dances and soirées. But just exactly what is a "gala"? Or a "soirée," for that matter? *Orange Coast* keeps you *au courant* with our guide to the season's brightest holiday galas.



1992's Christmas Carol Ball chairman Paul Nyquist (with wife Sandy), steps in again this season to chair The Festival of Trees.

WHAT'S WHAT—AND WHEN

If you're a little confused about the exact definition of what a gala or soirée is, take heart. These affairs are a part of our social institution and as such, continue to evolve in response to the needs of our changing society.

To begin with the simplest term, a "ball" is the most formal type of dance. It takes place in the late evening and usually includes dinner. According to Emily Post, the primary difference between a ball and a "dance" is that balls are cross-generational. Guests at a dance are all about the same age, while guests at a ball may include high-school students and their great-grandparents. Dances are characteristically less formal, sometimes held earlier in the day, and do not necessarily include food. Thus there are dinner dances, cocktail dances and even tea dances.

Balls were originally private affairs, or "grand balls" given by the upper crust as an opportunity to don their finest jewels and gowns and to maintain their standing in society. In 1922, Emily Post wrote, "Snobbish as it sounds and is, a brilliant ball is necessarily a collection of brilliantly fashionable people, and the hostess who gathers in all the oddly assorted frumps on the outskirts of society cannot expect to achieve a very distinguished result."

According to Post, in those days, it was not proper for a gentleman to escort an unmarried lady to *any* social occasion. Unmarried women always arrived at a ball escorted by a chaperone, such as an aunt. Etiquette demanded that men dance with every available woman at the ball at least once, although the "belle of the ball" was often surrounded by eager suitors who asked to cut in as she whirled about the dance floor with a chosen beau. A popular girl might change dance partners every half-dozen steps.

For her part, an eligible young woman was expected to dance with every man who asked her unless he was drunk or obnoxious. If she didn't care to dance, she was supposed to invite her admirer to join her where she was seated.

The days of private balls are long gone, but their descendants, such as the debutante ball, the military ball and the charity ball, are still with us, and many of the social conventions developed for the grand ball continue. For example, people seated at the same table often exchange dances. In this case, a gentleman should ask each woman at the table to dance. Other venerable institutions sometimes still found at balls include the grand march (ancestor of the Easter parade) and the reception line.

A gala is also a very formal affair. It is a celebration that usually includes food and dancing, plus some other activity such as an auction or musical performance. Galas are usually held for charity. In recent years the line of distinction has blurred between galas and balls, because so many balls are held as charity events and include fund-raising activities.

A soirée (French for evening party), is usually less formal than a ball, and the invitation list is shorter and more select. Although a soirée usually includes food, dancing is not always on the evening's agenda. Check before putting on your dancing shoes.

WHITE TIE VS. BLACK TIE: WHAT TO WEAR

According to Emily Post, the correct dress for a man going to a formal ball is white tie and tails. This means that men wear a tailcoat with matching trousers, a white waistcoat, wing-collared shirt and white bow tie. Women wear very formal, long evening gowns and elbow-length gloves, which should be removed before smoking, eating or going through a reception line. Military personnel should wear formal dress uniforms.

However, since few people own white tie and tails or ball gowns these days, most galas and balls are "black tie," one step down on the ladder of formal wear. Black-tie attire for men consists of a tuxedo or dinner jacket with matching pants, a cummerbund or vest, pleated white shirt, and black bow tie. Women wear formal gowns, which may be either long or short. Military personnel wear a dinner dress jacket uniform or dress blues.



Both white-tie and black-tie affairs call for a boutonniere or corsage. And in general, it is not proper to wear white-tie or black-tie attire before 6:00 p.m.

While the term "informal" may sound like cutoffs and an old sweatshirt to some, on the society page it means "not formal." To these so-specified events, men wear dark business suits and white shirts, while women can chose their attire from a variety of outfits: cocktail dresses, dinner dresses and evening dresses in long or short styles, as fashion dictates.

A TOAST TO TOASTS

A word here about toasts, since the holiday season is an open invitation to these heartwarming gestures of friendship. Toasting dates back to the days when wine was served warm with a piece of toast floating in it. Toasts are appropriate at any gathering, and are often a nice addition to an evening since they inspire feelings of warmth and camaraderie. Anyone can make a toast, although the host usually offers the first. Toasts are most commonly made during dinner, sometime between serving the first course and dessert.

The person who gives the toast stands up, raises his or her glass, and pronounces, "I'd like to propose a toast to..." The rest of the party will raise their glasses and repeat the toast. Then everyone drinks together. A toast may be given with wine or even water, but never with an empty glass. In military circles, a series of toasts is often given, beginning with "To the President" and ending with "To the ladies."

BALLS, GALAS AND CELEBRATIONS FOR 1993

Suitably dressed and prompted with the proper things to say and do, like Cinderella you're ready for the ball. Here are *Orange Coast's* picks of balls and galas for 1993.

A TOAST FROM THE HEART

Fine wines will go on the auction block December 1 at the Hyatt Regency Irvine as part of a gourmet food and wine-tasting to benefit the Volunteer Center of Greater Orange County. Auctioneer Bruce Kaiser, Butterfield's celebrated wine expert, will officiate. *A Toast from the Heart* will feature a silent auction, as well as food and beverages from 17 wineries, three breweries and 18 restaurants.

Tickets are $75 per couple or $40 for individuals. Contact Charlotte Calvin for more information at 953-5757.

AN ENCHANTED EVENING

December 3 marks the date for *An Enchanted Evening* at the Disneyland Hotel. Hosted by the Orange County Mortgage Banker's Association (OCMBA), this semiformal dinner and dancing extravaganza will also include entertainment by the International Children's Choir and strolling Dickens carolers. The Liz and the Biz band provides dance music.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Orangewood Children's Home to help defray mounting operating costs, according to Jim West, OCMBA president. Tickets to the event are $75 per person, and may be ordered by calling Fran Esplin at 750-6000.

CHRISTMAS CAROL BALL

On December 4, the Southland's most sought-after florists, decorators and designers will transform silk trees into a "Festival of Trees" for Hoag Hospital's annual *Christmas Carol Ball* at the Newport Beach Marriott.

This year's theme honors that Old World symbol of giving, the Christmas tree. Celebrities will award prizes to the best of 40 trees and ball guests will choose their favorite for the "people's choice" award. Better yet, guests will have the opportunity to purchase their favorite tree for their home or office. The trees will be on view to the public December 5.

The black-tie gala benefits the expansion and renovation of Hoag's Emergency Care Unit. Tickets are $400 per couple. For information regarding invitations, call 574-7208.

CANDY CANE BALL

Orange County gourmets can hardly wait until December 4 for the 45th annual *Candy Cane Ball*, sponsored by the Assistance League of Newport-Mesa.

At this ball, guests will find themselves "Dreaming of a White Christmas" as they enjoy appetizers and champagne during a silent auction, then move on to a four-course gourmet dinner, followed by dancing to the sounds of Danny and the Diamonds. Bruce Cook, society editor for *The Daily Pilot*, will be the master of ceremonies for the event.

Tickets to the ball, which will be held at the Westin South Coast Plaza, are $250 per couple, or $125 for individuals. For more information, call 759-9207.

PHOTO/JOE SCALO

STARRY, STARRY NIGHT, NEW ORLEANS STYLE

Do your holiday shopping the easy way at the *Human Options Benefit Auction* December 5. Holiday gift baskets will be auctioned to the highest bidder in silent and vocal auctions, as guests enjoy hors d'oeuvres and wine at the Robert Mondavi Wine and Food Center. The Royal Street Bachelors jazz band will be on hand to lend the evening the added spice of New Orleans-style jazz.

Tickets are $45 per person. For more information, call 497-5620.

CHRISTMAS TREE MAGIC

While calling this brunch a gala may be stretching the definition, the *Christmas Tree Magic* brunch on December 5 at the Four Seasons Newport Beach is worthy of the term. Eight Christmas trees decorated by professional designers and valued at $1,000 to $2,000, will be raffled and auctioned off to benefit the Children's Hospital of Orange County. The Kids Next Door, a talented group of teens from the Orange County Performing Arts High School, will entertain.

Tickets are $55 per person. Contact Sylvia Burnett at 673-9364 for more information.

CANDLELIGHT CONCERT

Music lovers will have the rare chance to see and hear all five of Orange County's musical arts groups perform on December 12. Approximately 120 performers from Opera Pacific, the Pacific Symphony Orchestra, the Orange County Philharmonic, Master Chorale and Pacific Chorale will take the stage at the Hyatt Regency Irvine. Produced by the Performing Arts Center Board of Directors, the occasion is the 20th annual *Candlelight Concert.*

Edward Cumming is the artistic director for the evening, which this year honors former Chairpersons of the Board of Directors Ruth Dirg, Thomas Moon, Gordon Hodges, Floss Schumacher, Carol Wilkins and Ciel Woodman.

The concert benefits the Orange County Performing Arts Center. Tickets are $250 per person. For more information, contact the Performing Arts Center development office at 556-2121.

SEASONAL SOIRÉE

For traditional elegance and style, no event matches St. Joseph's Hospital's 16th annual *Seasonal Soirée* on December 16. As you may recall, soirée is French for evening party, and this event at the Disneyland Hotel promises to be an evening to remember.

Besides dinner and dancing, guests may participate in a silent auction, where the highest bidder will take home crystal, gift certificates and tickets for a romantic getaway vacation.

Tickets are $125 per person. To request an invitation, call 771-8211.

BAILE DE NAVIDAD

For an enchanted Christmas, circle December 10 on your calendar. At 7 p.m. that evening, the Las Damas del Mar auxiliary of the Children's Home Society of California presents its 31st annual *Baile de Navidad* at the Dana Point Resort.

Along with dinner and dancing to the big-band sounds of the Jim Roberts Orchestra, guests will enjoy an auction, where among other items, they can purchase one of the theme trees that decorate the ballroom. Ball-goers may also participate in the silent auction, or take home with them a prize from an opportunity drawing.

Tickets are $175 per couple. For further information, call 542-1147.

HOLIDAY BOAT PARTY

The AIDS Walk Orange County *Holiday Boat Party* on December 16 will appeal to Orange County's high rollers. Guests at the dinner cruise and casino on the Catalina Flier will have an opportunity to win one-of-a-kind prizes using their gambling skills or, if they're luckier in love than cards, in several special drawings. Gifts include tickets from the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts' appearance of the Martha Graham Dance Company, a poster signed by artist David Hockney, an autographed baseball from the Angels, and an autographed script from the television series, *Murphy Brown.*

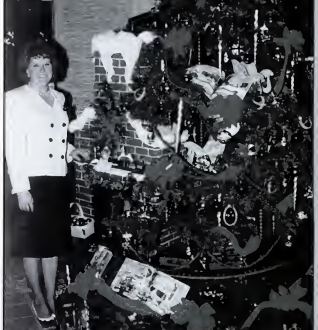


PHOTO BY BOYKO

CHARLENE MAGDA ADMIRES DEL LANGDALE'S TREE

Rounding out the evening will be a preview of the Newport Harbor Parade of Lights. Tickets are $125 per person and may be obtained by calling 955-1400.

NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

Bid farewell to 1993 and ring in 1994 with close friends—Friends of Caregivers, that is. This unique organization provides financial assistance to qualified care-givers who cannot afford professional care for a loved one suffering from Alzheimer's Disease or other forms of dementia.

Join the Friends of Caregivers for their *New Year's Eve Gala* at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 200 South Pine Avenue, in Long Beach. While the gala benefits a serious cause, the evening will be lighthearted, with a reception, an elegant dinner, and dancing to the live music of the Windmill Orchestra, not to mention the opportunity to win cash prizes of up to $5,000. Tickets are $100 per person, or $950 per table of ten. For more information, contact the community relations office at the John Douglas French Center at 310-493-1555.

Additional information for this article was provided by Nancy Coop of the Orange County R.S.V.P. *calendar.*

—*Sunni Bloyd*

Spotlight: Pacific Theatre

Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite* has always been a holiday favorite. This year, it will be performed by a special troupe in an unexpected location. The Maly Kirov Ballet, which features 15 members from the famed Kirov Ballet with 30 other dancers drawn from Russia as well as American companies, will dance the Yuletide classic in Cerritos. Surprised? Don't be. The Pacific Theatre, core of the $60 million Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, has re-opened this year, and is an eye-catching object of civic pride. It's distinctive architecture is described as "ornate Californian/Mediterranean style" and looks, at first glance, like an Aztec conquest of Byzantium.

Artistic Director Irina Jacobson oversees seven performances of *The Nutcracker* over a five-day span (the theater is dark on Christmas), starting December 21 and running through December 26.

There are two other good seasonal reasons to visit the new theatrical midpoint between the Los Angeles Music Center and the Orange County Performing Arts Center. Mel Torme is guaranteed to sing "The Christmas Song" when he appears with Doc Severinson on December 3 and 4, and "The Winter Solstice Concerts" will feature popular Windham Hill recording artists on December 18.

Each of these performances will be seen from different angles: "lyric," "arena" and "cabaret" seating, are examples of the Pacific Theatre's flexible seating configurations, that allow for five separate theaters in one room—at different times, of course. Thanks to technology (some borrowed from the aerospace industry), five sets of massive three-tiered steel seating towers can be rotated and moved on cushions of air. Additionally, five floor lifts can raise or lower seating areas or create a stage, the acoustic ceiling can be adjusted from vertical to horizontal, and the proscenium arch can be extended or retracted. If this sounds hard to imagine, that's because it is—which is why the theater draws intrigued architects and project managers from far and wide who come to study its remarkable features.



THE PACIFIC THEATRE CAN OFFER INTIMATE SEATING OR A LARGE-CAPACITY VENUE.

But how does it work? Very well, according to Victor Gotesman, manager of the protean hall since before its January 1993 opening. "During our first month of operation we intentionally planned a week in which we would go through every configuration in seven days," he says. They started February 21 with the intimate, 950-seat "recital" configuration for Lynn Redgrave's two-night Shakespeare recital, then changed to the largest, 1,950-seat "concert" configuration for Leonard Slatkin and the Louis Symphony Orchestra. The following evening, the stage moved to the hall's center for arena seating, (which accomodates 1,780) for an appearance by Henry Mancini and Cleo Laine in an evening performance of jazz and film music. By Friday, the stage had returned to its traditional hall-end position for Judy Collins' folk performance, seating 1,465 in the lyric configuration. Finally, the floor was cleared and tables and chairs were set up so refreshments could be served for the cabaret seating performance of the Preservation Hall Band's Dixieland jazz.

Gotesman would prefer not to repeat the experiment, however, "It nearly killed some of our staff in terms of the amount of time it took," he admits. One might suspect a battalion of engineers would be needed to pull off such dramatic transformations, but according to Gotesman, only a crew of eight to 12 stage hands is needed to transform the theater from its smallest configuration to the largest in about eight hours.

The Pacific Theatre requires more than two visits to show that it really can assume such radically different guises. The Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts is located at 12700 Center Court Drive. Free parking is available. For more information, call 310-916-8500 or 800-300-3435. *—Larry Meyer*



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Rivers Runs Deep

By Robin Manougian



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She made the line "Can We Talk" the most quoted inquiry of the Eighties — so much so she had those three little words trademarked— but there's a lot more to Joan Rivers than just talk

Joan Rivers has seen practically everything and heard even more. You'd almost have to believe that nothing and no one—with the possible of exception of New York disc jockey, Howard Stern—could shock her these days. "I love Howard so much. Sure he shocks me, but I like people who say what they think," says the talk-show maven. "You don't have to agree with them, but at least you know where they are, what they're talking about—what they believe. Howard says what he thinks and that's refreshing."

What really shocks Rivers these days aren't transvestites, men with 10 wives or divorce settlements of the rich and famous—those topics have been standard fare on Rivers' talk-show menu for years. "The way people are *not* bringing up children, the lack of values and no home life, the victimization of our



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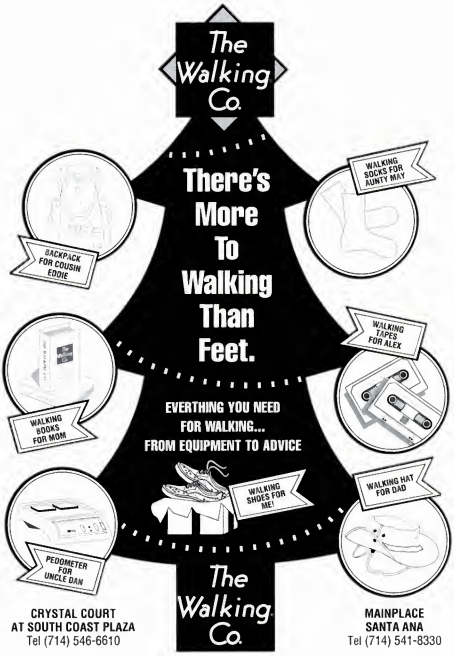
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society and the lack of initiative in our society—everything shocks me," she says in out-of-character seriousness. So serious, in fact, you might think you were listening to someone else entirely. But don't sell Rivers short. Your initial impression of her with the perfectly coiffed blond bob, the raspy, commanding voice—the very name itself—may conjur up the familiar image of the talk-show diva, but in that image you see only part of who she truly is.

Rivers, who turned 60 last June, has a host of credits to her name, not the least of which is *The Joan Rivers Show*. The program earned Rivers a 1989 Emmy for Outstanding Talk/Service Show Host, and consistently garners terrific audience response for its candid analysis of subjects and Rivers' ability to reel in top-name guests.

After five years of production, however, the show will be retired on December 31 to make way for *Can We Shop?*, a daily, one-hour, nationally syndicated program that combines celebrity interviews with the phenomenal success of televised home shopping. Rivers is ecstatic about the premise—and promise—that such a format holds. "The daytime talk show marketplace has become so bloated that everyone is having a difficult time coming up with original ideas and unique guests," she says. "The final straw was when I saw guests who had been on my show a few weeks earlier on three other shows, saying the same things—even wearing the same clothes."

In the end, Rivers and Tribune Entertainment, which distributes *The Joan Rivers Show*, decided it was time for a new challenge. "*Can We Shop?* is not only a natural progression, but combines all the elements I love best about daytime television. We had originally intended to continue with





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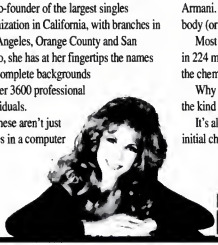
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The Joan Rivers Show, as well, but we eventually realized it was physically impossible to do the required number of shows per week along with all of my other commitments," Rivers says candidly.

But long before the brainstorm idea came along for *Can We Shop?*, it was the success of *The Joan Rivers Show* that lead the USA Network to sign her to host another talk-format program, this time with a gossipy-twist. Aptly called *Gossip! Gossip! Gossip!*, the twice-weekly, half-hour, all-gossip program built a loyal following, but recently became yet another victim of the cancellation warfare that is dictated by a fickle television audience and the even more fickle whims of television programming executives.

Such was the case with Rivers' 1986 late-night program, *The Late Show starring Joan Rivers*, which pleased audiences with its live format and a witty brand of humor that only Rivers can deliver so effectively. The show, which Rivers took on after a three-year stint as the sole permanent guest hostess of NBC's *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson*, made its debut on newcomer Fox Television. But when the show failed to yield astronomical ratings, Fox and then-president of Fox Network, Barry Diller, pulled the plug on the show a mere eight months after its celebrated debut. "The ratings were terrific," Rivers says in retrospect, "but [the Fox Network] was expecting, with their new station, higher ratings than they ever got."

But is Rivers all talk? Not entirely. Aside from her television and stage work, she has written several books, including *Enter Talking*, an autobiography that hit No. 4 on the *New York Times*' best-seller list. And among her favorite endeavors is The Joan Rivers Classics Collection, a line of fashion

jewelry marketed on the QVC Network. The line provides Rivers with an outlet to express her creative talents, since she has assumed an integral role as the line's designer. She was initially approached by QVC's CEO Barry Diller—the same Barry Diller who had fired Rivers just three years prior at Fox—who saw the opportunity to embark on a lucrative venture with the star. "I wasn't sure I wanted to do [the line], but after I got started, I realized how much I love [designing]," she says. "We've been doing very well. It's our third year and we've [sold] $60 million worth of product," she says proudly. "I love it. Half my life now is designing."

Though Rivers would seem to have it all, she'll be the first to tell you that while she has enjoyed success, she has also suffered her share of setbacks. Most notably was the tragic death of her husband Edgar Rosenberg, who committed suicide in 1987 at the age of 62. His death spawned a series of uphill struggles, not only for Rivers, but also for the couple's daughter, Melissa, now 23.

In the aftermath of Rosenberg's death, there was a disheartening period of estrangement between mother and daughter, and a very real sense that Rivers was somehow responsible for Rosenberg's suicide. Rivers felt compelled to shoulder the blame, since although she and Rosenberg had enjoyed a happy marriage, they had recently separated when he took his life.

Without her husband or the support of her daughter, and with her career in limbo, Rivers took control of the one thing she could: her eating. For six months, she battled bulimia. "Somebody explained to me that bulimia, at that point, is the only thing in your life you *can* control," she says. "When I realized that, I thought, 'I better get a hold of my life and learn to control more things.'"



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Rivers jump-started her life by doing what she does best—she began working again, returning to the Broadway stage in a production called *Broadway Bound*. Working seemed to provide the catharsis she needed. Although she desperately worried that she and Melissa would never be able to set aside the resentment and blame that had become so much a part of their relationship, with the help of a therapist, the two began to connect again. "It was very difficult," Rivers recalls. "I think truly [what made the difference was that] both of us wanted to get back together."

The problems that Rivers and Melissa were forced to face helped them to forge a bond that is stronger than ever. "We're two women now. We got back [together] on a totally different level, as women and as friends, rather than [just] a mother and a daughter," Rivers says.

With a higher awareness in their relationship came an elevated level of respect for each other's career goals and personal aspirations. After graduating in 1989 from the University of Pennsylvania with high honors in European history, Melissa decided to follow in her mother's show-business footsteps. She hosted her own two-minute gossip segments on MTV's *Hangin' with MTV* in 1992, and currently reports on youth-related stories for MTV and *CBS This Morning*.

So how does mom feel about the parallel career path her daughter is taking? Rivers, who attended Barnard College in New York, remembers vividly how her own parents weren't supportive of her decision to go into show business. "I don't blame them!" she can now empathize. She recalls that when Melissa announced her own similar career goals, "I got a little crazy—but when you're driven, you have no choice." But now, Rivers and Melissa even have plans to work together. Set to begin production next summer is an NBC-TV movie that chronicles their rocky relationship following Edgar's suicide.

While Rivers is proud of Melissa's successes, she wants for Melissa "what we would all like [our kids] to have: a happy life and a happy relationship with somebody [she loves]."

Rivers has been called the "queen of the barbed one-liners"—and her success stands as a testament to the effectiveness of her quick wit and strong persona, but she is far from being the standard-issue interviewer. She has also been a national spokeswoman for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, an advocate for Suicide Prevention, and since 1982, an active figure in the war on AIDS—long before it was politically correct to do so.

Even so, Rivers is not likely to denounce those who've taken to displaying their come-of-late support by wearing the red ribbons that have become as much a fashion statement as a symbol of solidarity. "Thank God [they're doing it]. If you've ever read the book, *And the Band Played On*, [you'd realize that] by the year 2000, 40 million people will be HIV-positive," she points out. "So thank God we're [becoming] more aware of it."

For Rivers, life just seems to get more promising. Even her personal life seems to be bringing her some long-awaited happiness, though she prefers to keep mum on the subject. "There's no one special, but there are two men I like very much," she says with uncharacteristic reserve.

And who might you think the talk-show queen would give her right arm to dish with next? You might be surprised at the answer: "Right now, [Russian President Boris] Yeltsin. And obviously, I'd really love to get ahold of Hillary Clinton—if she would tell the truth." Why Joan, is that an invitation—or a challenge? OC


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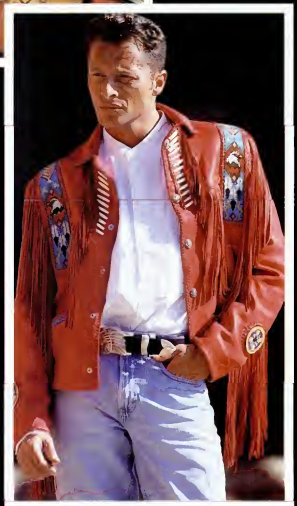
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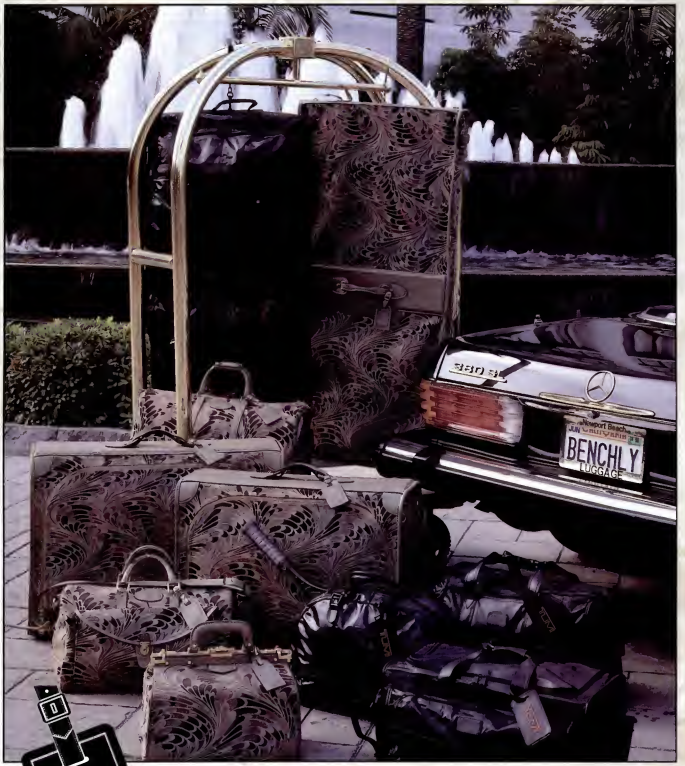
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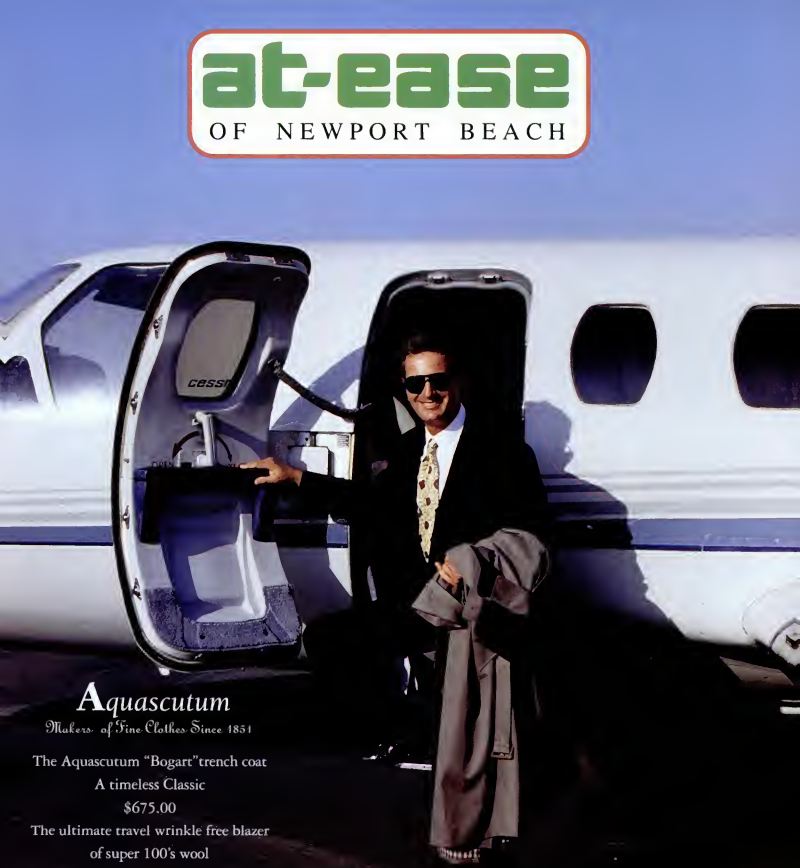
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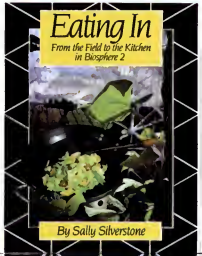








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For kids or just for fun—

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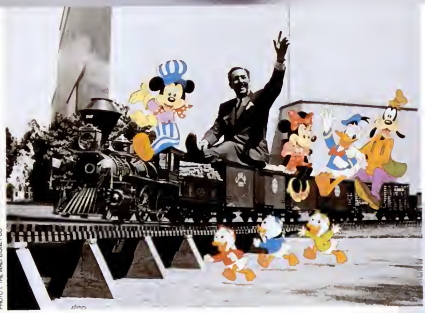
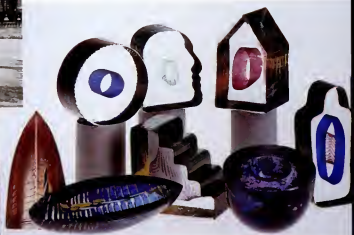


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BY PATRICK MOTT

ILLUSTRATION BY DARRYL KLUSKOWSKI

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CHRISTMAS CAROL OVERLOAD

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In the grand scheme of things, that's not nearly as terrible as, say, forgetting to floss, but it was a sure sign of things to come. Shortly after that venerable Polish carol drifted out of my consciousness forever, others followed. The melody to "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear" vanished without a trace, and even "White Christmas" evaporated into thin air. I simply couldn't sing the melodies anymore, at least not like a normal, Christmas-loving person.

But I could still sing at least one harmonic part. And all the words. In fact, I did just that for about three hours a day, from Thanksgiving, right up through Christmas Eve. Holiday tunes spewed forth from me more readily than Muzak from an elevator. And while I could recall every single syncopation in the melodies of ad jingles that hadn't aired for 30 years ("You'll wonder where the yellow went when you brush your teeth with Pepsodent!"), "Deck the Halls" had drained out of my gray matter like old crankcase oil from a '52 DeSoto. I had become a Christmas carol zombie.

I think it all started about 12 years ago, when three friends and I began strolling the bay shore on Balboa Island a couple of times each Christmas season, caroling for fun. All of us sang—and still sing—with the Pacific Chorale, and the casual caroling was a welcome break from the more intense rehearsing and performing the chorale did every December. It was also a sure-fire way to get dragged off the sidewalk and into neighborhood parties. All we had to do was load a few carol arrangements into a notebook and climb on the ferry. Three hours later, full of as many butter cookies and wassail as we could stuff ourselves with, we happily made our way home.

But being practicing capitalists, we couldn't leave well enough alone. One day, a bleary host who was planning yet another party offered us a gig—for money. So we wrapped ourselves in long scarves, donned our tattered top hats and bonnets, and chalked up a payday.

The word got around, and by the following year, we were swathed in Victoriana, calling ourselves "The What the Dickens Carolers." Our music folder swelled to the size of a Russian novel, and our dance card began to get very full.

Then it started to happen. Have you ever repeated a word over and over (try "uvula") until it starts to sound like Eskimo and you begin to forget what it meant in the first place? That's what happens when your performances of "Jingle Bells" start to go into the triple digits.

There you stand, with a look of hearty yuletide cheer beneath your bell-crown top hat, merrily belting out carol after carol. But behind the crooning smile and twinkling eyes, your mind drifts away. You begin to wonder why Ingrid Bergman could possibly have given up Bogie for Victor Laszlo, or whatever the heck his name was. And what was the name of that cafe in Paris? La Belle Aurore? Right. You start to mentally hum "As Time Goes By" and then…

Strange. Apparently, "Jingle Bells" has been over for a few minutes and you've fielded a request for "Adeste Fideles" in Latin and "O, Tannenbaum" in its original German. And nobody's looking at you strangely, so you must have chimed in on auto pilot. Which can be good and bad. The good news is that you definitely have the capacity to retrieve the music you sang and recall it later, often in your sleep. The bad news is, unless you're a soprano, you can usually only recall your own harmonic part, which bears as much similarity to the melody as Cheez Whiz does to cheese. The tenor part to "Silent Night," for example, consists of approximately two notes, which sound great in context, but alone creates a foghorn-like mantra—and that's what you take home with you.

Unfortunately, that's also what you bring to Christmas parties. As everyone gathers around the piano to sing carols, the sickening realization hits you: you don't know any—at least not any whole ones. You try to chime in bravely with your own mutilated rendition of the real thing while fellow guests turn and stare at you as though you'd just produced a live mouse from your mouth. You chuckle and give a stupid shrug as your hostess kindly removes your rum cider mug from your possession.

By Christmas Eve, you've become a musical automaton. You can sing anything, absolutely anything—the only catch is, you have to be with three other people to do it. And when you do, people listening get misty and nostalgic: little children smile at you and lovers get all snuggly. It's a nice little payoff.

Then you go home, turn on the tube and on comes *Holiday Inn* and Bing starts to croon "White Christmas." You cock your head at the screen and think, "What on earth is he singing?" The words seem vaguely familiar, but you couldn't place the melody to save your life.

It's worth it. When you're in costume, caroling in a group, you're welcome just about anywhere. So what if I sound ridiculous when I'm on my own at Christmas parties? I don't get to go to that many anyway—I've usually got a caroling gig. Besides, when I quit singing at, oh, 85, the carol melodies will start coming back to me. It'll be like hearing them for the first time.

I can hardly wait. OC

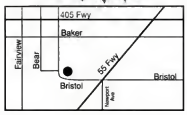

THEY ALL FALL DOWN



Former County Supervisor Don Roth's 17-year career in county politics came to an abrupt end last March after allegations of impropriety surfaced

1993 HAS BEEN A BIG YEAR FOR SCANDAL IN ORANGE COUNTY. GREED AND BETRAYAL ATTACHED THEMSELVES TO PEOPLE WHO HAD PRESUMABLY EARNED AND BEEN GIVEN THE PUBLIC'S TRUST. AVARICE CLOUDED THEIR JUDGMENT AND EVERYONE EITHER HAD HIS HAND OUT, OR JAMMED DEEP IN SOMEONE ELSE'S POCKETS.

By Tom Singer
Graphics by Amy Kranz

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DON ROTH

High society sunk to abysmal depths in ethics and morality. Danny and Susie Hernandez fell off the fast track after joining in the debauchery, as did Stephen Wagner, who stole from the children being educated in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District. Others stole from the homeless, as charities were caught diverting millions of dollars in contributions.

Sexual harassment allegations jammed the docket at the Newport Beach Police Department. Throughout the county, fraud reached epidemic proportions in workers' compensation, automobile insurance and medical practice. A sense of helplessness against such social chaos was fostered by our public guardians' inability to safeguard us from hate crimes, gang warfare and economic decay.

This rogues' banquet had us clenching our fists in fury. Fueled by disappointment and frustration with our civic leaders, we felt like drop-kicking the next miscreant who came along.

And then came Don Roth.

The former 4th District County Supervisor dragged along with him a substantial list of skeletons from his political closet: he accepted favors from constituents, he carelessly neglected to register gifts, and recklessly ignored the limits of contributions. His influence seemed to carry a price tag. Worst of all, as the charges against him surfaced and every public sentry (with the possible exception of the PTA) was building a case against him, Roth stonewalled. He brushed off the brewing maelstrom with sublime arrogance.

The maelstrom won, of course, and in March, at the apex of his 17-year career as an elected official in local politics, the chairman of the Orange County Board of Supervisors resigned and pled guilty—in that order.

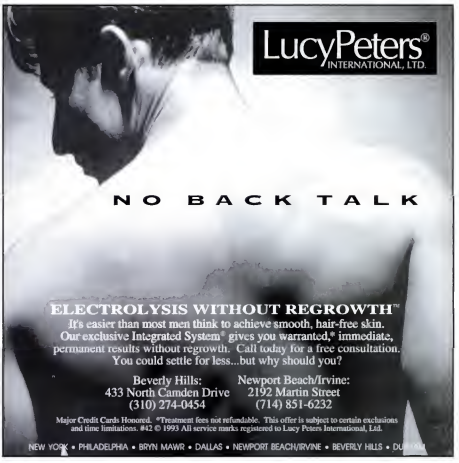
Roth's allies were left speechless in light of the evidence against him and the county's citizens shook their heads at the rare exposure of corruption. *The Orange County Register* called the event "A sad chapter in Orange County's political history."

"More than any other supervisor, Don Roth let it be known that he liked to be wined and dined," says local political reformer Shirley Grindle. "And when he was caught, he lied and tried to cover it up, and dug the hole deeper and deeper. He's a cocky little bastard. He brought himself down with his arrogant attitude." In essence, Grindle and her peers believe Roth got exactly what was coming to him. But that's just one side of the story.

In all fairness, there was no mention in the political obituaries of Roth's considerable achievements as Anaheim city councilman, mayor, and county supervisor, or of his records for aiding the progress of law enforcement, easing traffic problems, and caring for the needy and elderly. There was also no acknowledgement that Roth was among those responsible for shaping the county, for overseeing its evolution from a disjointed receptacle of Los Angeles overspill into a metropolitan area with an identity distinctly its own.

Roth's sendoff? He was found guilty of seven criminal misdemeanors, punishable by 200 hours of community service, a $50,000 fine, four years of political exile, and three years of probation.

"Whenever a public official is forced to resign due to accusations of wrongdoing," says Anaheim Mayor Tom Daly, a long-time Roth associate, "there is a tendency to overlook all the good work he may have accomplished in the past." Tell that to Richard Nixon. Public officials, by nature of their post, must answer to a



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higher standard of behavior and judgment that never eases up. It's much like the George Bush syndrome. As president, Bush reached unprecendented highs in popularity polls during the Gulf War. Yet because of the declining state of the economy when the election year began, his popularity dropped to an all-time low. The American public forgot his war-time successes and focused only on what he hadn't been able to accomplish—and the rest is history. It's the last act that sticks with people—the mindset is one of "what have you done lately?"

Don Roth wasn't a saint, but neither was he the devil. He also wasn't the typical polished, detached politician, but a grassroots beat-walker fated for a fall in a cynical society where amity breeds suspicion.

A simple man who didn't enter public service until age 54, Roth's congeniality and gregariousness swept him upstream in local political waters. He was pushed beyond his comfort level by the political machine and an overly assertive wife, and in the end, he simply couldn't conform to complex rules.

And that could be the enduring part of his legacy, to have been one of the last of his political ilk. As politics become increasingly purified, only the wealthy will be able to afford (in cash and scruples) to run for office in the future, threatening to make an oxymoron of the term "public service."

The corruption of Don Roth? Don Roth didn't change—the very definition of corruption did.

"The effect is that we're only electing people who are rich, who can write their own check, completely free from any conflict of interest," says Dan Wooldridge, who was head of Roth's staff and who, dismayed by the tightening noose, resigned seven months prior to Roth's own resignation. "Personally, I don't like government by the rich," says Wooldridge.

"I think the moral of Don's story is that an elected official can't have friends," adds Harvey Englander, a consultant who helped run several of Roth's successful campaigns.

Roth still has his friends, he just doesn't have an office. Nor much to say. He declined numerous requests to be interviewed for this story, but his demeanor left little doubt that he is a bitter, resentful man. "I've been dragged through the mud with no mention of all the good I did in 24 years of public service [with] all the children's centers," he spat at the end of one brief connection. "I'm a private citizen now. I don't have to deal with it anymore."

The problem is, he didn't deal with it too well even when he still had to. It would be hard to dispute the fact that Roth ignored the line where personal life ends and official duty begins. Less certain is whether he was motivated by a lack of ethics, or simply a lack of sophistication. "Don [is] an extremely gregarious fellow who always had difficulty with that part of the law that says, even if someone has been a personal friend of yours, if he takes you out to dinner, you've got to report it. Or, if you play golf with someone and reciprocate on the next round, that [too] could be a violation," says Englander. "This is Don Roth: The only man in Orange County who sold real estate here in the Fifties and Sixties and didn't become a millionaire. He didn't need that. He enjoyed being taken out to dinner or treated to a game of golf, but he did not have his hand out," Englander says.

He did, however, have his luggage packed and golf bag stocked. The litany of charges against Roth appeared first as small crumbs until soon there was an entire loaf. His biggest breach of ethics totaled $8,500, but as they say, it's not the size of the piano, but rather the tune you play on it.

Even the smallest of Roth's indiscretions serve to underscore a much larger problem. For instance:

- There were the double-billed expenses for the 1990 European fact-finding trip on behalf of the Super Speed Train Commission.
- There was neglect on Roth's part to disclose favors from Contel of Atlanta, a communications company absorbed by GTE in 1991, at the same time he was exercising his vote on four Contel contracts.
- He took a junket to New York City in 1987 funded by First Boston Corp., a Wall Street investment firm.
- He under-reported golf and Anaheim Stadium-access favors valued at over $3,500 from 1990 to 1991 from the City of Anaheim.
- He contracted unbilled landscaping at his Anaheim Hills home totaling $1,950.
- He enjoyed several stays gratis during 1989 and 1990 at the Palm Springs condominium of developer Magdy Hanna.
- He received an $8,500 interest-free loan from developer Gerard Dougher during 1990-91, as well as more than $2,000 in meals, travel and assorted gifts bestowed from Gerard and Dorothy Dougher since 1985.

That's a lot of ammunition. But the most incriminating entry is the one involving the Doughers, on whose behalf Roth cast a vote in violation of abstinence rules. Wooldridge, however, deftly defuses Roth's complicity in that case.

"There never would have been a conflict if the Planning Commission had taken its scheduled action," Wooldridge says. "But one of the

commissioners left; he had to go play golf. Otherwise, that issue would have been resolved at the Planning Commission, and would never have gone before the Board of Supervisors—and Don would never have been put in the situation of having to vote on the Doughers. They had been friends of his for a long time without ever having an issue come before the board. Don never worried that they would come and advocate an issue," Wooldridge says in Roth's defense. As a defense, it sounds weak, but it is a plausible rationalization after the fact.

In retrospect, Roth's greatest defeat was predestined by his greatest triumph. His survival of a bitter and costly three-way brawl for a supervisor's seat in 1986 honed the curiosity of the media and agitated his foes—a highly flammable combination. "He was the first supervisor in recent years to be elected in a very competitive race," says Wooldridge. "There was more money spent in 1986 than in any recent campaign. And it was a tough, rigorous campaign."

The Anaheim mayor was perceived as primary fodder for former Congressman Jerry Patterson, and Jim Beam, head of the Building Industry Association. The runoff featured Roth and Beam, "and it got pretty vicious," recalls Wooldridge. "Even after the controversy over the campaign was over and done, a certain track record remained," says Wooldridge. "Don had to raise a ton of money and all that information had to be reported. Then someone starts a fishing expedition, and you've got all these people who gave Don all this money and obviously liked him a lot."

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Roth wasn't even interested in defending his character. The fight had gone out of him.

$1 million supervisor race in Orange County," says Englander. "And, because of it, Don had problems with certain people whose contributions went over conflict-of-interest limits, [which meant] he had to abstain from votes affecting them."

Englander pauses in thought, the haunting traces of that runaway campaign apparently still vivid in his mind. "There was a great deal of internal effort to keep Don from accidentally...our jobs as staff guys was to keep Don from...look, there were pages and pages of contributors. It was pretty damn hard for anyone to remember who they all were. But we tried to keep on top of it, to prevent Don from accidentally passing a vote for somebody with whom he had a problem," Englander says, finding the words to explain the complicated chain of events.

Clearly, though, there were enough loose ends for the media to tie together into a neat package that would eventually be opened by the FBI, the Orange County District Attorney's office and the California Fair Political Practices Commission. The press became Roth's shadow.

"It happened, in my opinion," Englander says with a shrug, "because it was a slow news day. "The stories about Don began appearing at a time when politics were very dull in the county. Political reporters had nothing to write about, and they were looking for a story, for controversy," says Englander. "The *Times* and *The Register* were locked in a circulation battle, and that helped feed this thing. The media was enjoying a feeding frenzy."

Suddenly, ignoring the pleas of his advisors, Roth refused to respond; he seemed oblivious to the charges that were mounting against him. But the blinders turned into a blindfold, appropriate for Roth's own political execution. His complacency did him in, along with a failing marriage that served to erode his judgment and make a potentially destructive enemy he could not afford.

Jackie Roth was a domineering wife whose ambitions for Roth, by many accounts, exceeded his own. She was instrumental in prodding her reluctant husband to run for supervisor, for instance, and acquaintances attest she likened herself to Mrs. Supervisor. When the votes were in, it was "we won," rather than "Don won."

By the time he was re-elected to the board, Roth considered Jackie "an embarrassment" to his public image. They separated in mid-1990, and their divorce became final by January 1991. The breakup directly affected Roth's ensuing woes: Needing an inexpensive place to live after his separation from Jackie, Roth sought rent-free accommodations in a trailer park owned by the Doughers to ease the burden of a monthly $3,000 mortgage on the Anaheim Hills home Jackie continued to occupy. And, according to a source close to the couple, the $1,950 worth of landscaping work at Roth's home was independently arranged by Jackie Roth.

And who knows the indirect effect of estrangement on an investigation of a former spouse?

"None of us knows what Jackie said to the DA and the grand jury," Englander says, "but everyone will agree it was a distraction he did not need at the time. Certainly, the case fueled the fires of discontent. [The divorce] was another set of headlines even tougher to defend against than allegations of financial impropriety."

But Roth wasn't even interested in defending his character. The fight had gone out of him. "It was so unlike Don," says Jerry Pierson, a former county sheriff who, through the Orange County Deputy Sheriffs' endorsement of Roth in 1986, developed a respect for him that has since grown into friendship. "Don would stand out there and lead with his chin on anything," says Pierson. "He was not a shy or cautious person. He was a guy [who would] stand there and duke it out. But when this started, he changed."

Roth's behavior puzzled some and infuriated others. "For years, Don took my advice and it helped elect him mayor and to the Board of Supervisors," says Englander. "Don stopped taking that advice, and that change did him in. Don had some minor infractions and when they first surfaced he could have said, 'Yes, I made some mistakes, I did them unintentionally; I screwed up.' Had he confronted the charges and negotiated a settlement, which could easily have been done, he would be a supervisor today—and an effective one."

"A politician needs to face up to problems as quickly as possible, not let [them] fester, where people with other agendas can join in," says Wooldridge, discouraged enough by Roth's silence to walk away from his own $63,190 a year job. "He had to be honest out-front, not bullshit out-front, and get on with his life and career."

During another brief contact that doesn't quite blossom into a full interview, Don Roth dulls the pain of banishment: "I was ready to retire anyway."

"I don't believe that for a minute," Wooldridge retorts. "He had too much energy, vitality and too much willingness to lead [to just quit]. There was already discussion about a third term and there probably would've been a fourth, too." OC

Illustration by Amy Krantz

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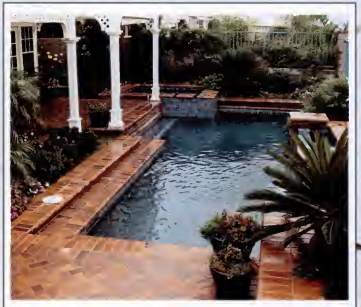




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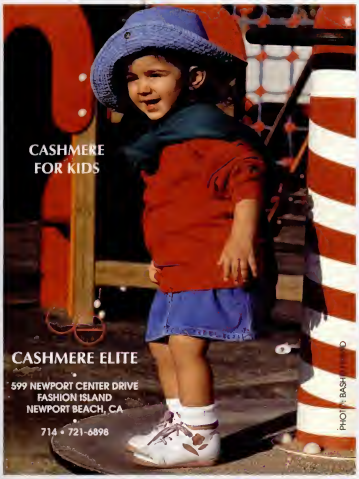
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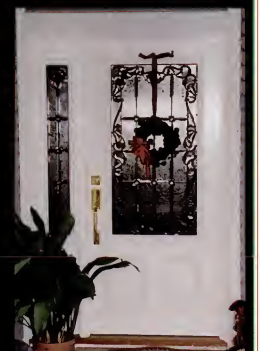
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BY KAREN GREEN

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the facilities and activities offered to the approximately 21,000 residents of South Orange County's Leisure World. Here, active seniors, (median age 76 to 77) pack their hours with exercise, educational programs, hobbies and social events.

According to Leisure World's management, female residents outnumber their male counterparts 3-to-1, though the atmosphere is hardly a scene from *The Love Boat* or a lonely heart's club. Nonetheless, Leisure World is a sort of Garden of Eden for its happy male population. "The single man has got it made," says resident Morey Field, a retired automotive mechanics instructor in his mid-70s, "but the casserole brigade is a bunch of malarky. There are quite a few outgoing women here—you've got your pick. However, there are certain things you must do in order to be socially successful," Field points out.

Appearance is an important aspect in Field's full life. "Cleanliness is an absolute must," he says. "I shave twice a day—I will not look grubby." He adds that since it takes so little effort to dress decently and look his best, it's not uncommon for him to change his clothes two or three times a day.

Does all this concern over appearance pay off? You bet it does. When social engagements and festive parties such as the community's New Year's Eve affair are planned each year, Field is never left home in front of the television set. "I'm having a lot of fun," he states quite candidly. "As a matter of fact, I'm having the best time of my life—I think this is a wonderful place for anyone—married or single."

Though the widower admits he is "very shy," he has boosted his popularity among the ladies by learning how to dance. Four times a week, Field attends dance club get-togethers and classes in square, ballroom and line-dancing; he recently spent over $100 for a pair of dancing shoes. Field also exercises at the Fitness Center four times a week, plays cards every Tuesday night (where he is currently the only male participant), exercises at home, and plays golf whenever he feels like it.

When he moved to Leisure World, Field was seeking easy living, and selected a co-op because, he says, "I don't want to do any more repair work." On the domestic side, he is completely self-sufficient. He ably does his own laundry, cooks, cleans house, does his own mending and makes a damn good cup of coffee if he does say so himself. The only thing missing in Field's otherwise full life is companionship. And it's companionship he searches for—not money and not casseroles—but rather a compatible, easy-going person. His immediate dreams also include an extended trip to Paris and a motor trip around the United States.

Another Los Angeles-area transplant, Arnold Jacobs, moved to Leisure World after residing briefly in Fountain Valley. Also a widower in his mid-70s, Jacobs dated the woman whose house he bought two years ago, and jokes that, "no, she really didn't come with the property." Humor is a priority in Jacob's life, and he proudly shows Orange County he has plenty of it to go around by entering cartoon captions in one of the county newspaper's contests.

Between attending social club meetings and writing a variety of articles and speeches, Jacobs stays very active. He enjoys going out two or three nights a week, and particularly enjoys going to the theater. And yet as social as Jacobs is, he doesn't care for big crowds, and says that when he wants "to be alone, I want to be

alone. Things I don't want to do, I don't do."

Surrounded by treasures and mementos from a full and happy life, Jacobs is proud to share stories of his years spent in the Air Force as well as in retailing, or just showing off a favorite poetry or photography book. He also fends for himself quite well, managing his own cooking and cleaning on a daily basis. "I make a good chopped liver," he brags. And don't worry about Jacobs' dance card either—like Field's, his is pretty full, too—Jacobs has a lady friend and they go out quite frequently.

When asked if it's a man's world at Leisure World, Jacobs laughs. "Most men think it's God's gift. It's eight to one, or so," says Jacobs, quoting what seems to be a popular misconception about the ratio of women to men. However, rather than playing the field, Jacobs says he is comfortable with "this one woman. We laugh a lot, and we complement each other."

Prior to moving permanently to Southern California to get away from the cold New Jersey winters and to be with his grown children, Irv Bellings rented a condominium at Leisure World for more than two years. "The kids brought me out here, and this is an ideal spot," he says with a smile that radiates his warm personality.

After making his living as a builder-developer for 40 years, Bellings chose to rent his home rather than be tied down by the constraints of home ownership. Doing so, he says, allows him "to be free to take off. I want to simplify my life." Bellings has lived the single life for nearly seven years and believes Leisure World is the ideal community for the single man between the ages of 60 and 80. "The place is kept up very nice. It's close to all the shop-

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INTERIOR DESIGN:

The Career for the 90's

The most progressive interior design college in Orange County is Interior Designers Institute. In addition to its Certificate Programs and Associate of Arts Degree Program, the Institute also offers a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Interior Design, which is FIDER accredited. The Bachelor of Arts is the highest degree offered by the Institute, representing the finest caliber of training available in interior design. The Institute is one of the few colleges in California chosen to offer this prestigious degree.

The outlook is excellent for interior design as a career for the 90's. The demand for interior designers has grown so much that a recent survey estimates it is one of the 20 fastest growing careers in the nation. The survey stated that the number of interior design jobs would grow 25% by 1995. In addition, Orange County's growth in tourism is expected to have a positive effect on the design industry.

Construction of hotels, restaurants, offices, shopping centers and homes is projected to grow rapidly in the coming years. This is the time to train for an exciting and rewarding career in the glamorous field of interior design. The decision of which college to attend is an important one. The right college will help determine your future success as an interior designer.



One of the reasons for the success of the Interior Designers Institute is its **excellent job placement record.** Most people do not realize the many different kinds of careers available in both residential and commercial interior design.

Commercial design encompasses such projects as medical facilities, offices, schools, hotels, restaurants, shopping centers, model homes, and fitness centers. Yacht design and airplane design are two additional rapidly growing specialties. Other opportunities include textile, wallcovering and furniture designing, interior spaceplanning for builders, drafting and architectural and interior illustrating. Exciting careers also are available in television and stage design and visual merchandising. Career opportunities in interior design are virtually unlimited.

Interior Designers Institute offers a Bachelor of Arts Degree (FIDER Accredited).

Some of the many well-known firms in which the Institute has placed students include: Lusk Interiors, the largest design firm in Orange County, which does residential, commercial and model home design; Beckham-Eisenman, one of the top hotel design firms with projects nationwide; Saddleback Interiors and Creative Design Consultants, two model home firms; Joyce Bright Interiors, a residential design firm; Creative Retailing, a company that does retail store design; and Design Tec, a firm specializing in commercial design.

An educational background that focuses on practical knowledge is another key to obtaining a good job in the design field. Interior Designers Institute's programs of study concentrate on the **practical aspects of interior design.** A natural transition from the college classroom to the workplace is the Institute's job co-op program, which gives students the opportunity to learn from leading Orange County designers while pursuing their studies. Some of the many firms that have participated in the college's job co-op program are Wanda Bogart Interiors, Seal Furniture, Cal Pacific Restaurant Design (El Torito), Fleetwood Enterprises and Carole Eichen Interiors. Another hands-on learning situation involved a major condominium project in Long Beach. A group of



Institute students were selected to work with the developers of the project in designing four model homes. These students had actual experience working one-to-one with the client and seeing the final design product installation. This is a real advantage when entering the interior design field upon graduation.

The salary opportunities in interior design are virtually unlimited–the sky's the limit

In recent years, the interior design profession has developed higher standards. As in many fields, affiliation with a professional organization is considered a necessary credential. Interior Designers Institute students are eligible for membership in the major interior design professional organizations - American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), International Society of Interior Designers (ISID) and Institute of Business Designers (IBD). In addition, the Institute maintains student chapters of two of the professional organizations, which is a way for students to establish contact and begin **networking with professional interior designers.** Other examples of student involvement in the design community include a participation in numerous design showhouses, including the International Society of Interior Designers (ISID) and American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) Design Houses and the Easter Seals Design House, as well as the prestigious March of Dimes gala fundraiser, "A Tribute to Broadway," whose sponsors included William Lusk of Lusk-Serengeti Builders, J.M. Peters Developers and the Segerstrom family.

A primary reason for the college's reputation for excellence is its faculty members, who read **like "Who's Who" in interior design.** It is important that a design school offer a wide variety of instructors from every support area in the interior design field to give the student a well-rounded and yet specialized education. There are 30 instructors on staff at the Institute. All of the instructors are working interior design professionals, and their average length of work experience in the field is ten years. The faculty includes a Golden Nugget Award-winning architect, the designer of the CBS television set, the former Head Designer of Saddleback Interiors, the designer of housing for the Lake Placid Olympics, the winner of the IES Lighting Award for the Holiday Health Spa in Hollywood, and a number of interior designers who have been published in such magazines as Designers West, Orange County Magazine and the cover of the L.A. Times Home Magazine. Since **the student teacher ratio averages** 18/1, students have the opportunity to work closely with these design leaders in learning the most current design and portfolio techniques.

Men and women considering a career in interior design often question the differences between the private college and the university system. The large class size and the impersonal nature of the university system often result in a high dropout rate. On the other hand, classes at the Institute are intentionally kept small, and students receive a large amount of personal attention from their instructors, the counseling staff and the administrative staff. The combination of **small class size and individualized attention** aids tremendously in the creative learning process.

Another advantage over the university system is that the Institute prepares its students for tomorrow's challenges, which is reflected in the emphasis on **progressive classes and portfolio techniques.** The college's computer classes are a prime example of this progressive philosophy. Interior Designers Institute is one of the few colleges in the United States offering CADD **(computer aided design and drawing)** courses geared for the interior designer. The Institute reacts quickly to changes and new developments in the interior design field.Interior Designers Institute, a nationally accredited college, offers four different programs of study. **The Fundamental Program** is for the beginning student whose main interest is in designing one's own home. **The Certificate Program** is the entry level professional Program for the beginning student interested in pursuing a career in interior design. The Program prepares the student for a career in residential design. **The Associate of Arts Degree Program** is designed for the upper level career oriented interior design student. Whereas the Certificate Program concentrates on residential design, the Degree Program focuses on commercial design, as well as more advanced aspects of residential design.

One of the reasons for the success of Interior Designers Institute is its excellent job placement record

The Bachelor of Arts Degree Program is for the student pursuing the highest degree offered by the Institute. This prestigious degree represents the finest caliber of training available for becoming an interior designer. All four programs of study are offered both during the day and in the evening.

Your Interior design future depends on selecting the best interior design college. Choosing the right college and the right education for you is probably one of the most important decisions you will ever make. We encourage you to call or visit **Interior Designers Institute at 1061 Camelback Road, Newport Beach** (714-675-4451). The Director of Admissions welcomes the opportunity to meet with prospective students to discuss personal and occupational plans, as well as financial aid.

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Bellings likens his leisurely life to that of summer camp: "There's no time to be lonely."

ping facilities, the people are very friendly, and you have all the opportunities." According to Bellings, the ratio of women to men works in his favor. "It's great. A lot of women are very lonely and want the company," he says.

In any given week, Bellings can be found at the Fitness Center, playing or competing in table tennis tournaments, playing tennis and golf, taking trips, and attending functions hosted by several clubs. He also dines out about four times a week.

Bellings likens his leisurely life to that of summer camp. "I can't keep up with all the things [they have going on here]. I often have to cross out something to do something—there's no time to be lonely," he says, as he checks his appointment book for the afternoon's schedule. "You just can't do it all," he shrugs in mock frustration.

Although there are approximately 200 resident-organized clubs at Leisure World, among the most popular is the Swingin' Singles, "a purely social club," that meets once a month explains President Ada Feldman. The 250-member club was founded three years ago by a female resident who, at the time, was newly widowed. "Where do single people go? What do they do?" Feldman says she wondered during those early days. At the first meeting, "so many people attended, the fire marshal showed up and shut us down," she recalls. "It started with a bang, and it's been going that way ever since."

Swingin' Singles' calendar is packed with a host of activities, including holiday parties, entertainment, and day and weekend trips. The club's only rules are that members be single and current or previous residents of Leisure World.

Singles' organizations aside, the most active center for singles or couples at Leisure World is the Fitness Center, where attendance hovers around 16,000 visits a month, and registered patrons number between 3,500 and 4,000, reports Terry Robinson, who has been Leisure World's exercise coordinator for the past 15 years. Department chair and professor of physical education at the Emeritus Institute at Saddleback College, this 40ish athletic pro sees an ever-growing interest in fitness at Leisure World. "We started with a couple of classes, and every month these get bigger. The only thing that limits us is floor space," she says.

Tanya McElhaney, management executive since 1969 and now Leisure World's community relations manager, has observed that residents are becoming more health-conscious. For example, the original gym built for Leisure World was a relatively small structure in comparison to what houses today's popular Fitness Center. "It was not expected to be the activity of the day that it is now."

The center underwent an expansion two years ago that now encompasses 10,000 square feet of gym space and extensive amenities: 15 treadmills, 12 advanced stationary bikes, 20 exercycles, two LifeSteps, two LifeRowers, weightlifting systems, wall pulleys, free weights, and a host of elaborate rehabilitation equipment. Several major manufacturers of fitness equipment have donated machines to the center in exchange for testing and consulting by the seniors.

The average age of the Fitness Center's participants is 76, with the oldest being about 90. "I have 65-year-old guys who can compete with anyone in weight training," says Robinson. Aerobics classes are packed, with a peak attendance of between 120 to 130 on any given day.

Debby Lamb, director of recreation and a Leisure World employee for more than 20 years, says the community maintains a strong social emphasis. "There are lots of activities for singles and for people [who want to] meet [other] people," she says.

Most of the events Lamb schedules, including stage revues and performances by such notable stars as Eddie Fisher and Shirley Jones, are filled to capacity. Saturday-night dances that feature live bands attract as many as 300 to 350 people, and theme dinners, such as "lasagna night," attract more than 200 diners who love the social aspects of such events.

The newest Leisure World residents are primarily couples, or individuals who have some prior connection to the community, McElhaney notes. "The majority of people have friends who are already living here, especially women who have lost their husbands. [It's not uncommon for] two or three girlfriends to move here and purchase their own manors (living units)."

Contrary to popular belief, Leisure World is not a seniors' party scene and the men don't have a sultan's harem in close tow. Single women do not arm themselves with casseroles and pies, nor do they line themselves up at the front door of every new widower—no matter what the female to male ratio is.

Instead, Leisure World is everything its residents expect and want from a very private community. The residents are active, mature adults who lead full lives. They take great comfort in the security and pleaure in their easy, entertaining lifestyles.

Leisure World, by all accounts, is more than a structured, planned residential community. Lamb wholeheartedly agrees: "Residents don't grow old in Leisure World, they grow young. They're having a great time." OC



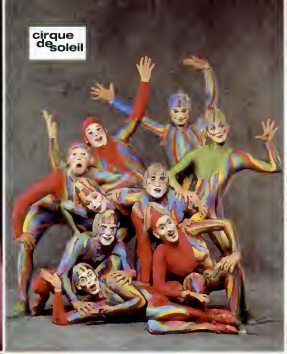
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Worst: ROBERT DORNAN

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Best: ED ARNOLD
Worst: WALLY GEORGE

Place to Be Seen
Best: ROXBURY SOUTH, SANTA ANA
Worst: PIC 'N' SAVE OR THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE

Place to Meet Men
Best: ADMIRAL'S CLUB AT AMERICAN AIRLINES
Worst: ORANGE COUNTY JAIL

Place to Meet Women
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Worst: ANY FREE CLINIC

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Worst: AMERICAN LEGION, NEWPORT BEACH

Place to Be Stranded
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Worst: ORTEGA HIGHWAY

Beach
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Worst: BOLSA CHICA

Golf Course
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Worst: DRIFTWOOD GOLF COURSE, HUNTINGTON BEACH

Visitor Attraction
Best: DISNEYLAND AND SOUTH COAST PLAZA
Worst: MOVIELAND WAX MUSEUM, BUENA PARK

Architecture
Best: PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
Worst: CRYSTAL CATHEDRAL

Fitness Club
Best: THE SPORTS CLUB/IRVINE
Worst: HOLIDAY SPA, FOUNTAIN VALLEY

Night Club
Best: METROPOLIS, IRVINE
Worst: LOUIE-LOUIE'S, COSTA MESA

Tennis Club
Best: NEWPORT BEACH TENNIS CLUB
Worst: THE COURTS AT TEWINKLE PARK, COSTA MESA

Movie Theater
Best: EDWARDS LIDO, NEWPORT BEACH
Worst: STADIUM DRIVE-IN THEATER, ORANGE

Theater Production
Best: CIRQUE DE SOLEIL
Worst: ELIZABETH HOWARD'S CURTAIN CALL DINNER THEATRE, TUSTIN

Local Rock Band
Best: STONE TEMPLE PILOTS
Worst: TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

Museum
Best: BOWERS MUSEUM, SANTA ANA
Worst: MOVIELAND WAX MUSEUM, BUENA PARK







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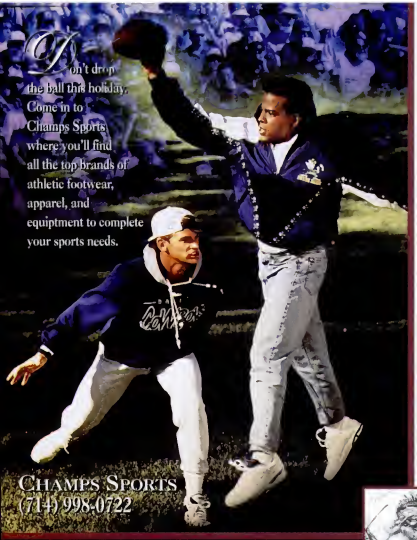
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When we worry about our kids—and we often do—it's more about keeping them safe from accidents, helping them achieve a good education and protecting them from some molester who might be lurking on a street corner outside school. We have just begun to make ourselves aware of the possibility that the people with whom we've entrusted our children—teachers, babysitters, Sunday-school instructors, even our spouses—might abuse them.

If it's hard to accept the notion that average, nice people could harm our children, it's twice as hard to believe those same people could do so deliberately and systematically as a member of a Satanic cult—and certainly not here in Orange County, where everything appears to be so safe and normal.

Ever since the McMartin Preschool case in Manhattan Beach that began some 10 years ago, we have come to regard claims of ritual abuse with skepticism. Tabloid tales of Sunday school teachers forcing children to drink blood or kill rabbits seem too implausible to be true. Does no one take such claims seriously anymore? Is fact not stranger than fiction?

There are people who believe such claims carry at least some weight, including religious leaders, state and social-service authorities, law-enforcement agencies, a large number of therapists and counselors, and hundreds of children and adults who claim to be survivors of Satanic ritual abuse. And a good number of those survivors reside in Orange County.

The exact number of victims of ritual abuse in Orange County is difficult to determine and therapists point out that those actively involved in cults are not likely to volunteer such information. Only those who



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There has not been a single successful criminal prosecution of ritual abuse in Orange County.

escape and seek help from officials or therapists are able to provide any information, and even that is likely to be disjointed because of the extreme trauma the individual has suffered. But there are some indications of the scope and magnitude of the problem.

Authorities, for one, have started taking reports of ritual abuse seriously. In June 1993, the Orange County Task Force on Organized Child Abuse, a subsidiary of the Child Abuse Council of Orange County, presented an interdisciplinary seminar on the ritual abuse of children. More than 200 people attended, most of whom were local residents. Presenters included a school psychologist, county social services representatives, a medical expert specializing in child abuse diagnoses, a Los Angeles psychologist with extensive experience in treating survivors of ritual abuse, and an Orange County District Attorney's office investigator. An estimated 20 percent of those who attended the seminar claimed to be survivors of ritual abuse.

A large number of psychiatric patients report being victims of Satanic ritual abuse. The therapists and counselors consulted for this article, most of whom specialize in dissociative disorders, support their patients' claims, saying that as much as 80 percent of their caseload consists of ritual-abuse cases. In one instance, 13 of 15 patients treated for Multiple Personality Disorder (MPD) have some recollection of being ritually abused. Nationwide, surveys have revealed that between 20 and 30 percent of MPD patients claim to be ritual-abuse survivors.

At a low estimate, there are probably hundreds of ritual-abuse survivors in Orange County. A high estimate would put the number in the thousands, giving the county's 4,000 practicing therapists and counselors at least one or two patients apiece.

While the existence of cult activity in Orange County may be difficult to believe, neither is the problem restricted to its boundaries. Childhelp USA, an organization that serves the state of California, logged 1,741 calls in 1992 alone that involved claims of ritual abuse. In that same year, Monarch Resources of Los Angeles received nearly 5,000 calls on the subject. Some U. S. law enforcement experts believe that nationwide as many as 50,000 people are killed each year by members of Satanic cults.

Despite these overwhelming statistics, there has not been a single successful criminal prosecution of ritual abuse in Orange County. It's obvious the problem exists, but what is being done to stop it?

Far from being only a California problem, ritual abuse has been reported worldwide, in 33 states in the United States, as well as in Canada, Holland, Germany, Great Britain and Australia. It is a controversial subject among law-enforcement, mental health and religious professionals, who are finding a mutually acceptable definition hard to come by.

The Ritual Abuse Project conducted through the University of Colorado at Boulder defines ritual abuse as an organized form of severe sexual, physical, emotional and spiritual abuse, often involving numerous perpetrators and many victims. Ritual abuse involves small children, adolescents and adults who may be forced to take part in cult ceremonies that range from "weddings" with Satan to crucifixions and ritual cannibalism.

The project, which surveyed 33 white, female survivors of ritual abuse from 13 states, found that all of them reported being sexually abused. As many as 94 percent said that as children, they had been forced to perform sexual acts with adults, and 97 percent said they had been tortured. Another 97 percent said they had witnessed or were forced to participate in animal sacrifices, while 88 percent said they had witnessed or taken part in human sacrifices. Others say they were forced to eat human flesh. In most cases, the abusive acts began very early—often prior to 5 years of age—and ended around the age of 18, although some survivors report being abused as adults.

About half those questioned by the project say the groups that abused them were Satanic cults, and the rituals performed were designed to worship Satan and gain power. Others mentioned a Nazi white-supremacy movement and a "perversion of Christianity." Most groups included a male leader or high priest, a priestess, a torturer and a medium. Survivors described ceremonies that were often perversions of Christian rites, including baptism into the cult, communions that required human sacrifice, and marriages intended to bond a child to the group. These ceremonies often took place on holidays that correspond with Christian holidays, or on cult members' birthdays.

Victims usually fall into the following categories:

- Children of cult members who are brought into the cult as infants by their parents.
- Children in preschool or day care.
- Children from broken families who are abused during visitation.
- Runaways or "throwaways"—people with no family.
- Missing persons.
- Kidnap victims.
- Adult survivors who are re-victimized.

Ritual abuse seldom consists of a single episode, but instead involves repeated abuse over a long period of time. Physical abuse most often in-



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As a religion, Satanism is protected under the U.S. Constitution.

cludes torture and killing, and sexual abuse is deliberately painful, sadistic and humiliating, and is used as a means of gaining dominance over the victim. Psychological abuse primarily involves the use of mind-control techniques as well as mind-altering drugs and ritual intimidation, which serves to instill in the victim a deep terror of the cult and the evil spirits believed to be at the cult's command.

Such horrific events have a profound effect on victims, often resulting in a dissociation from the experience. Survivors often describe what they've witnessed or been subjected to very much like that of an out-of-body experience. "I moved up to the ceiling from where I saw this little girl being molested and I felt very sorry for her," is a typical description of a dissociative experience. Psychologists specializing in the field report that nearly all victims of ritual abuse go on to develop MPD.

Alfonso Valdez, investigator for the Orange County District Attorney's office, says there is a fine line between ritual abuse and Satanic worship. It is not illegal to worship Satan, and as a religion, Satanism is protected under the U.S. Constitution. But criminal activity, whether performed as part of a religion or for its own sake, is subject to criminal prosecution.

Ritual abuse is not limited to Satanic cults, nor do all Satanists practice ritual abuse. In fact, two of the more well-known Satanic groups, the Church of Satan and the Temple of Set, have issued statements denying that their groups participate in any sort of criminal activity. Michael Aquino, high priest of the Temple of Set, says temple members have a strong sense of ethics and don't kill people or animals in the practice of their religion.

The motive for ritual abuse may be power, control of the victim and others, financial gain, worship of evil or evil entities, mind control, training or indoctrination, and sexual gratification. Valdez categorizes occult practitioners as either "true believers," people who break the law because their occult belief system requires them to do so, or "true criminals," who use occult belief systems to justify their criminal acts.

There are two types of true criminals, "predatory ritualists" who commit ritualistic crimes to satisfy their own cravings for power, money, sex or control; and "psychopathic ritualists" such as Charles Manson or Richard Ramirez (the "Night Stalker"), who commit ritualistic crimes to satisfy their own delusions or obsessions.

Most survivors suggest, however, that they were ritually abused as part of Satanic worship for the purpose of indoctrinating them into Satanic beliefs and practices.

There are three types of Satanic worshippers who are likely to engage in criminal activity.

1."Dabblers" are typically upper-middle-class teenagers, characterized as "curious about everything." They are often drawn to Satanism through references in heavy metal music, the Dungeons and Dragons game of role-playing, and involvement in drinking, sex, and drug parties. These teens are often underachievers in school and have low self-esteem.

2."Self-styled Satanists" are loners with psychopathic and criminal backgrounds, such as Ramirez.

3."Criminally oriented cults" are highly organized, secretive groups whose members come from all stations in life and span several generations. Doctors, educators, lawyers, police officers, ministers and leaders of organizations such as white-supremacy groups, are said to hold

Infant sacrifice may be the most horrific element of ritual abuse.

high positions within these cults.

Frighteningly enough, survivors often report that Satanic ritual abuse is familial and intergenerational—a hidden crime that descends from generation to generation. Ritual Abuse Project identifies fathers as the primary perpetrators of ritual abuse (58 percent), with mothers being named by 42 percent of survivors. Grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts and uncles were also typically identified as ritual abusers.

Adult survivors have reported being abused by physicians, high-security government employees, teachers and military officers. Priests, police officers, judges, farmers and morticians were also mentioned. Children sometimes report that they have been abused by people posing as Santa Claus.

If all this seems far-fetched, you're not alone. Survivors of ritual abuse suffer from a monumental credibility gap with the public.

"If we say too much, people will shut down completely because they can't stand to believe Satanic cults exist," says one therapist who chose to remain anonymous. Others agree, but point out that they, too, didn't want to believe what their patients were telling them. And yet the sheer number of reports and the similarity between them is the most convincing evidence cited by most mental-health professionals.

"The most telling piece of evidence I've had was when two unrelated patients described the same event—from different physical perspectives," says one North Orange County psychiatrist who also prefers to remain anonymous. "It was a big cult meeting several years ago out on Lake Mead. Several different groups were there, and they captured a family of campers and raped, then crucified the woman." According to the psychiatrist, one patient described the event from the south side of the lake, while the other described what he had seen from a vantage point on the north side. Other therapists agree. Kevin J. Connors, an Orange County counselor, points out numerous similarities in other cases around the world. For example, therapists from as far away as Australia report that children's nursery rhymes such as "Who Killed Cock Robin" and "London Bridge Is Falling Down" are used to trigger self-harming or destructive behaviors. Connors believes that one reason for this type of conditioning is to produce "perfect servants" of the cult.

"Underneath all the sensationalism about midnight activities—the graveyards, the blood and the upside-down crosses—this is about people engaged in calculated abuse to control children for some kind of nefarious purpose," Connors says. "From a business standpoint, they want children they can control for child pornography, prostitution and drug smuggling. Through ritual abuse, these people can create the near-perfect courier."

So where's the evidence—the bones, the ritual implements, the bodies? Survivors say cult members either destroy or conceal the evidence. For example, human bodies are eaten and the remains are burned to ashes, buried, dumped at sea or disposed of by mortuaries operated by cult members. They also allege that police officers or judges sympathetic to the cult cover up or disallow any concrete evidence that may remain.

Infant sacrifice may be the most horrific element of ritual abuse. Even more appalling, though, is where the cults obtain these babies for sacrifice: They breed them. Most female survivors claim they have been forcibly impregnated and later required to

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A victim's memories provide the most compelling evidence that Satanic cults exist.

participate in their undocumented baby's sacrifice.

Marjorie Jones (not her real name), a nurse at Orange County's 18-bed Dissociative Disorder Unit has heard these stories firsthand. "A lot of women say that as teenagers, they were used as breeders to make babies for the cult," she says. "One patient [reported she] had to skin her little boy, cut off his penis and drink his blood for the Satanic high holidays."

Jones believes most of her patients. "We get some borderline personalities—you know, attention-seeking types. But for the most part, these women are not like that. Most are afraid of revenge. We have to monitor their phone calls and get-well cards. Someone could send them a coded message to kill themselves—and they would do it," Jones says.

In response to such reports, FBI expert Ken Lanning says, "I can find no evidence of the extreme end of what these victims allege—and by that I mean the organized, intergenerational cults that are involved in baby breeding and human sacrifice." Lanning believes that while Satanic ritual abuse may exist, it is not an organized, subterranean religion. He thinks some adults may use Satanic symbols to frighten the children they're abusing into silence.

Other experts point out that children's stories of ritual costumes, animal sacrifice and sexual abuse are so fantastic that parents and authorities tend not to believe them, thinking that many of the alleged murders may have been illusions. Terror, abuse, fatigue and drugs may heighten the effect of gimmickery and sleight-of-hand on children's minds.

Skeptics think they have another explanation for the consistency of these stories of ritual abuse: False Memory Syndrome. Psychologist Ralph Underwager and others believe tales of ritual abuse are false memories created unintentionally by parents and therapists who subconsciously encourage children to say what they want to hear.

Underwager told viewers of the nationally syndicated television program, *America's Most Wanted*, "You look at the network of people who do this ritual abuse balderdash, and they go to the same workshops, they read the same things, and so on. The therapists talk to one another, and it's the therapists who produce the same accounts across the country by shaping and molding the people," Underwager says.

It is still a victim's memories and accounts that provide the most compelling evidence that Satanic ritual abuse exists. Trauma produces a different kind of memory. Called "body memories," "traumatic memories" or "fixed ideas," this type of memory is well-documented in psychiatric research that dates back as far as the 19th century.

In cases of extreme trauma, a person is unable to make sense of what is happening. The shock and horror of the experience is pushed outside his or her experience so that the narrative memory (one's internal life story) cannot integrate the experience into its pattern of understanding. As a result, the individual will probably not remember the event. Instead, some random occurrence will trigger a traumatic memory, during which the patient will re-experience all the feelings and details of the original event. This is the basis of Traumatic Shock Syndrome, in which traumatic memories are virtual tape-recordings of events as they happened. Because they have been inaccessible to the narrative memory, these memories are accurate records of traumatic events, and

SYMPTOMS OF RITUAL ABUSE IN CHILDREN

Taken individually, these behaviors do not necessarily indicate a child has been ritually abused. However, if a child suddenly exhibits several of these symptoms, there may be cause for concern.

1. Fear of going to the bathroom or bathing.
2. Obsession with feces and urine.
3. Fear of weddings and funerals.
4. Acting out sexually in ways that are not appropriate to his or her age.
5. Making excuses not to return to school or to a babysitter.
6. Fear of authority figures such as police, doctors or teachers.
7. Difficulty sleeping.
8. Toilet-training problems long after the potty-training stage.
9. Arriving home from school or a babysitter's house wearing no underwear, or wearing someone else's underwear.
10. Use of sexual words and phrases not commonly used in your household.
11. Vegetarianism—refusing to eat meat, or eat or drink anything that is red or brown in color.
12. Fear of holidays when costumes are commonly worn, such as Halloween, Christmas and Easter.
13. Physical abuse of dolls, pets or playmates.
14. Sudden, extreme modesty.
15. Extreme vigilance about keeping all doors and windows locked.
16. Obsession with death or dying.
17. Hinting about sexual activity; suggestions that someone has molested him or her.
18. Fear that parents will be killed or injured.
19. Scars, scratches or tattoos in the shape of cult symbols.

Sources: Catherine Gould, Ph. D. *Signs and Symptoms of Ritualistic Abuse in Children* and M. Salas, preschool parent, *Signs of Ritual Sexual Abuse.* —*V.M.*

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thus are especially pertinent in identifying ritual abuse.

Prosecuting ritual abuse cases is problematic for several reasons. Young children, for one, make poor witnesses. The traumatic nature of such an event combined with a child's limited vocabulary and the natural propensity of children to fantasize, make juries incredulous of their testimony. Adult survivors, on the other hand, have difficulty recalling and testifying about events that happened 20 or 30 years ago, especially if they were under the influence of drugs or mind control at the time. The fact that adults often suffer from psychiatric problems or exhibit multiple personalities makes them seem even less reliable to jurors.

Hard evidence is usually negligible or nonexistent. Police from across the country have spent days digging at sites said to contain the remains of cult victims, only to come up empty-handed. Others have found evidence of Satanism, such as stone altars and animal bones, but no proof of illegal activity beyond trespassing.

District Attorney Investigator Valdez says law-enforcement officials have a different perspective on ritual abuse. "Each case has to be investigated on its own merits and the allegations have to be substantiated to proceed with a criminal filing and subsequent prosecution. In some cases, the ritual aspect of the crime may not be needed to proceed with the criminal case," Valdez explains. "However, the ritual aspects of a crime may be important if one is to proceed with a civil lawsuit against the alleged perpetrator."

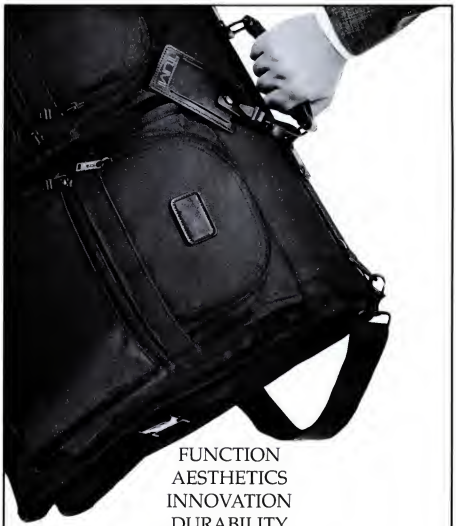
While most ritual-abuse cases never come to trial, there have been a number of prosecutions that have resulted in convictions. In most instances, the ritual abuse aspect was never mentioned in court, even

though victims' accounts clearly indicated the true nature of the crime. Of 13 cases successfully prosecuted across the country between 1984 and 1992, 10 involved day-care centers, schools or babysitters.

In 1991, Orange County resident Bonnie Badenoch and her sister filed a civil suit against their mother, alleging she had victimized them as children during Satanic rituals and had continued the abuse with Bonnie's daughter. It was the county's first and only lawsuit to seek compensation for damages done by ritual abuse. The sisters won their case, but the jury awarded them no damages.

If there is one phrase that best describes the Orange County agencies involved in investigating ritual abuse cases, it would be "frustrated vigilance." "We get occasional reports alleging ritual abuse, but the majority come from adults," says Ray Gallager of the Orange County Child Abuse Registry, "and only a handful of the cases that have occurred [in Orange County carry] an allegation of current ritualistic abuse of a child. To my knowledge, as an agency we have not been able to substantiate any [claims]." He adds, "If ritual abuse is going on in the way some people say it does, the pure dynamics of the system will keep it hidden. Current investigative methods aren't going to be successful with this type of abuse."

Barbara Oliver, director of the Laguna Hills-based Task Force on Organized Abuse of Children, an agency that organizes seminars on ritual abuse, is even more frustrated. After nearly two years of study, her task force is on the verge of disbanding. "What's next?" she asks. "We're not set up to do the necessary kinds of research. There needs to be research in this area of child abuse before we can even talk about it."



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"I'd like to know if this is happening so we could do something about it."

Oliver also says it's difficult to have any clear-cut information or statistics about Orange County when there is so little evidence gathered for the entire country. "It makes it difficult for an organization like ours that has to be grounded in proof and evidence. Survivors' stories are very compelling, but our focus is on children, and most of the information [available] is on adults. On a personal level, I'd like to know if this is happening so we could do something about it," she says.

Investigator Valdez echoes the same frustration: "I would really like to have the evidence to prosecute some of these guys," he says.

No consensus has been reached in the issue of ritual abuse, but as Dr. David McNeil, a skeptic about most claims says, "If only 10 percent of what I hear about ritual abuse is true, then we have a major problem on our hands."

Richard J. Loewenstein, past president of the International Society for the Study of Multiple Personality and Dissociation, and senior psychiatrist and director of the Dissociative Disorders Program at Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, calls for further research and asks believers and skeptics for "a modicum of good will, whether we take one side or the other to try to maintain some sort of middle ground, we can learn something from one another that may be helpful to our patients," he says. "Despite the controversies, clinicians are faced with the problem of treating these patients in a responsible and competent fashion. We must make the best judgments we can about treating these patients. It's also important that we keep our minds open to any new data that may emerge," Lowenstein says.

In the meantime, if your child tells you things that seem too terrible to be true, temper your skepticism. Listen—and seek help. OC

Illustration by Stephen Kasner.

Doctor A. is a pseudonym for a psychiatrist currently practicing in North Orange County. Victor G. McKenna is a free-lance writer who specializes in cults and crime.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

Books and Literature

• *Painted Black* by Carl A. Raschke (Harper and Rowe, $5.95). Religious historian Raschke explains the social and intellectual context as well as the historical roots of contemporary Satanism.

• *Out of Darkness* by David Sakheim (Lexington Books, price not available). A compendium of papers written by experts on ritual abuse.

• *Satanism and Occult-Related Violence: What You Should Know* by Michael D. Langone, Ph.D. and Linda O. Blood (American Family Foundation, $11.95). Covers the historical background of Satanism, the effects of involvement, what families and mental health professionals can do, plus several other relevant issues.

• *Ritual Abuse: Definitions, Glossary, The Use of Mind Control* by the Ritual Abuse Task Force, Los Angeles County Commission for Women ($5). This 30-page report provides straightforward definitions and explanations of many aspects of ritual abuse. To order, call 213-974-1455.

• *Ritual Abuse/Satanism*, an information packet prepared by Cult Awareness Network ($12). Contains photocopied material available to the public about ritual abuse and Satanism. To order, call 312-267-7777.

Videotapes

"Children at Risk: Ritual Abuse in America." Case histories of Satanic-cult abuse, including interviews with children, therapists, parents and law-enforcement personnel. Includes opposing points of view. 57 minutes, $39.50. To order, write Cavalcade Productions Inc., 7360 Potter Valley Road, Ukiah, CA 95482, or call 707-743-1168.

"Significant Others." Explains the phenomenon of multiple personalities and the ritual abuse genesis of many dissociative disorders. $39.50. By Cavalcade Productions.

"Coming Home: Recovery from Satanic Ritual Abuse." Explores spiritual aspects of recovery from Satanic ritual abuse. $39.50. By Cavalcade Productions.

Organizations

Orange County 24-Hour Child Abuse Registry, 938-0505.

Organized Abuse Task Force, Child Abuse Prevention Council of Orange County, 23117 Plaza Point Drive, Laguna Hills, 92653. 768-5655.

Child Sexual Abuse Network, 701 S. Parker, Orange, 92668. 547-0168.

Cult Awareness Network, 2421 West Pratt Boulevard, Suite 1173, Chicago, Illinois 60645. 312-267-7777.

—*V.M.*

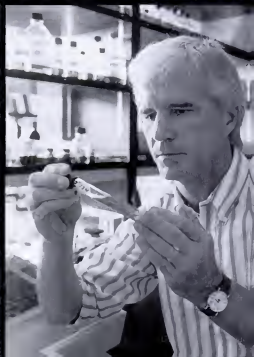





MAKING THE GRADE

BY NICOLE GARRIS



UC Irvine Once Again Proves You Don't Have to Be Division I to Score High

1993 has been a stellar year for the University of California, Irvine—just ask Planetary scientist and Chancellor Laurel Wilkening. The youngest of all the UC schools, UCI is flourishing just 28 years since its founding.

As Professor of mechanical, aerospace and environmental engineering and director of the UCI Combustion Laboratory Scott Samuelson notes, UCI is highly successful, in part, because of its willingness to synchronize research with practical application. This boldness reflects patience and courage, and, as the following roundup of UC Irvine's accomplishments during the 1992-1993 school year demonstrate, a continuing commitment to man and the environment.

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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

High-Speed Civil Transport Rockets Ahead

It's faster than a speeding bullet. Actually, it's faster than just about any form of passenger transportation currently available to the public. The United States has been the leader in aeronautics since the Wright brothers first took flight in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina—and UCI is helping maintain that lead. Now, Professor Samuelson is conducting research for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to reduce the levels of nitrous oxide emitted into the stratosphere from the proposed High-Speed Civil Transport vehicle (HSCT). The HSCT will commence operation in the year 2000, and will carry approximately 400 passengers at 2.4 times the speed of sound and four times faster than modern passenger aircraft. The HSCT will shuttle passengers to Asia twice daily from the United States.

Industrial Education Program Established

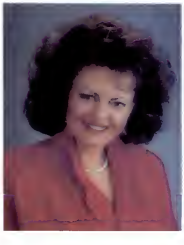
Thanks to UCI, a ray of light may actually soon shine down on displaced aerospace workers in Orange County. The School of Engineering established the Industrial Education Program for professional engineers employed by the school's corporate affiliates to ease the transition from employment in aerospace to other related fields, such as environmental and biomedical engineering.

Pacific Rim Consortium

The state of California is leading the way once again. Key researchers from Taiwan, Korea, Japan and California are participating in the Pacific Rim Consortium in Energy, Combustion and the Environment. The goal of the consortium is to discover ways of reducing wasteful en-



Photography by Eric Fig



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UCI's School of Engineering was named among the top 50 graduate programs in the nation.

ergy use in everyday life. Each year, two universities and two major industries in each country host the meeting. UCI and UC Berkeley team up with the Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison this year to serve as hosts for the United States. Says Professor Samuelson, "Energy and the environment is a global, not a regional problem." This year the consortium addresses the conflict between the provision of energy for society and environmental degradation.

School of Engineering Earns High Marks

Cream of the crop, top dog—call it what you will, but UCI's School of Engineering was named among the top 50 engineering graduate programs in the nation out of a total 193 by *U.S. News and World Report*.

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS

Santley Showcase of Actors

Getting noticed by those in the entertainment industry is one of the most difficult obstacles to overcome when trying to become a professional actor. That's why Robert Cohen, in conjunction with Jeff Greenberg, former casting director for *Cheers* and a UCI theater student alumnus, founded UCI Coast-to-Coast. Each March, eight graduating master of fine arts students and several recent UCI graduates perform a collection of short, dramatic scenes for more than 150 talent agents and casting directors at Hollywood's Matrix Theater, as well as at the Douglas Fairbanks Theater in New York City. Past Coast-to-Coast participants have gone on to enjoy success on television and the stage.

Daniel Martinez's Work Exhibited

Color him happy. Studio Art Professor Daniel Martinez proudly displayed his work at two of the world's most prestigious exhibitions last June, including the famed Whitney Biennial in New York City and the Venice Biannale in Italy. Professor Martinez became a full-time member of the UCI faculty last fall.



Aching Feet On Board ?

"No pain, no gain" may be a popular saying for many sports enthusiasts, but when it comes to your feet, pain could mean a big decrease in performance. Running, bicycling and even walking can put a lot of pressure on your feet and ankles, leaving you in chronic pain and slowing your pace.

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Graduates of UCI's writing programs have a history of success and this year was no exception.

Internationally Known Jazz Flutist Joins Faculty

Jazz flutist James Newton became an instrumental part of UCI's music-department faculty this year. In addition, Newton received a Guggenheim fellowship to help fund the composition of his first symphony, which is nearing completion.

Fine Arts Dean Conducts "Saul"

UC Irvine Fine Arts Dean Robert Hickok conducted the first West Coast performance of George Frideric Handel's four-and-a-half-hour oratorio, "Saul" last May. But for Hickok, this was old hat. He also conducted the American premier of "Saul" in Brooklyn, New York, in 1961 and again two years later at New York City's famed Carnegie Hall.

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

School of Humanities Tops Gourman Report List

The Humanities graduate and undergraduate programs earned the highest overall rankings at UCI in the 1993 edition of the Gourman Report. Published by the National Education Standards of Los Angeles, the report "give[s] parents, students, employers and educators a comparative assessment of higher education programs in the United States and selected programs abroad," according to Scott Nelson of UCI's University Advancement Communications Office. In a study conducted with more than 1,000 schools across the nation, UCI's undergraduate programs ranked as follows: French: 17, comparative literature: 18, Spanish: 19, English: 20, philosophy: 22 and German: 25. Graduate school rankings tallied as follows: comparative literature: 8, English: 16, French: 21, philosophy: 22, Spanish: 23 and German: 25.

Writing Program Continues to be a Success

Write on! Graduates of UCI's writing program have a history of success and this year was no exception. Professor Thomas Keneally published his latest novel, *Woman of the Inner Sea* and anticipates the release





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Founded in 1980, UCI's Graduate School of Management is gaining the support of local industry.

of Stephen Spielberg's film adaptation of his 1982 book, *Schindler's List* this month. Keneally has also been inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Two other graduates of the writing program, Jervey Tervalon and Michael Golding, sold their first novels to major publishing houses.

California Joyce Conference Hosted at UC Irvine

Where could you have found more than 300 James Joyce lovers assembled from around the world? This year, UCI was the place. "California Joyce 1993," a major international conference celebrating the works of writer James Joyce and his cultural impact, was held at the campus' student center this year, beating out many schools that had competed for the honor. Previous conferences have been held in Copenhagen, Dublin, Monte Carlo, Philadelphia, Vancouver and Venice.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Taco Bell Corp. Endows Chair in Real Estate

What does Mexican food have to do with UCI's Graduate School of Management? Apparently, quite a bit. The Irvine-based Taco Bell Corp. pledged $500,000 to UCI's Graduate School of Management to endow a chair in real estate management. Taco Bell President and CEO John Martin says, "We are thrilled to be establishing a new corporate partnership with UCI to foster graduate education in real estate management." Not only will the program train graduate students in real estate management, it will also invite the real estate and business communities to participate in education.

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Huntington's Disease Gene Found

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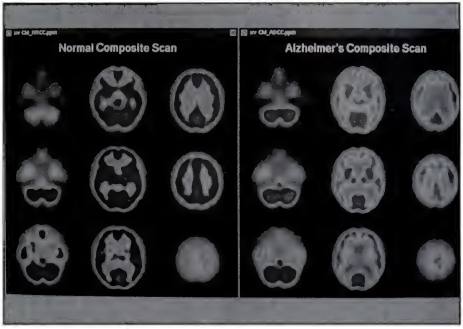
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Researchers at UCI have developed a computer program for early diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease.

UCI research team headed by John J. Wasmuth, have identified the gene responsible for Huntington's Disease. Researchers now plan to concentrate on understanding how this particular gene determines whether someone becomes ill. The discovery is a major milestone on the road to finding a cure for the debilitating disease.

UCI was also recently named a National Center for Human Genome Science and Technology, one of only 16 such centers in the country. The center will be funded by a three-year, $3.7 million grant to Wasmuth.

Bren Professor Becomes President of AAAS

UCI has consistently been recognized for its scientific achievements, and now it has one more accolade to add to this ever-growing list. The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) has named as its new president-elect, Bren Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Dr. Fransisco Ayala. With more than 150,000 members, the AAAS is the largest scientific organization in the world. AAAS also publishes the premier scientific journal, *Science*. As president, Ayala plans to emphasize not only science, but also education and Latin-American issues, and will concentrate on securing funding for individual scientific researchers.

Buying Time for Leukemia Patients

Frank Meyskens, director of UCI's Clinical Cancer Center, has discovered that vitamin A, when combined with a chemotherapy drug, can help postpone the onset of the acute phases of leukemia. In addition to the obvious benefit of giving patients hope, the treatment also allows doctors more time to locate bone marrow donors.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Speed Limit Study Goes a Long Way

Fasten your seatbelts! Economist Charles Lave has stunned the high-

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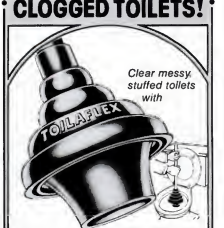
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way transportation establishment with his study that shows how highway deaths actually declined in the 40 states that raised their speed limit from 55 mph to 65 mph on some rural interstate highways. Fatalities in states that raised the speed limit 10 mph declined by 5 percent. For his contributions, Professor Lave received the university's Extraordinarius award, which recognizes distinction in a combination of areas.

Anthropology Professor Wins Award

Accolades, accolades, accolades. UC Irvine Anthropologist Leo Chavez is the proud recipient of the Margaret Mead Award for his book, *Shadowed Lives: Undocumented Immigrants in American Society*. The award is the highest honor bestowed on anthropologists who use academic research to discover ways of resolving everyday problems. Professor Chavez's research focuses on the plight of undocumented workers (workers without "green cards"), with an emphasis on health-care issues among the Latino community.

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION STUDIES

ITS and Caltrans to Help Resolve Traffic Problems

There's no denying that Southern Californians would greatly benefit from (and certainly appreciate) even a small reduction in traffic congestion. We may get some relief. Caltrans has hired UCI's Institute of Transportation Studies (ITS) for $9.9 million to conduct a three-and-a-half-year study in which ITS will oversee the introduction and testing of new technologies to help reduce traffic in Southern California and elsewhere. The primary goal of the research is to utilize already proven defense technologies for transportation management. New technologies will be tested in Irvine and Anaheim in co-operation with Caltrans operations centers and several other companies.



The School of Social Ecology, established in 1992.

AROUND THE CAMPUS

Regents Name New Chancellor

UCI's new year began with new goals, new challenges and a new chancellor. Laurel Wilkening was named UC Irvine's third chancellor by the Board of Regents on January 15, 1993. Wilkening, who succeeds Jack Peltason, was formerly provost and vice president of academic affairs at the University of Washington since 1988. Before that, she was a faculty member and administrator at the University of Arizona for 16 years, and chaired the Vice President's Space Policy Board in 1991.

Music Media Center Christened

You don't have to be musically inclined to take advantage of the plethora of musical materials available at UCI, but you do have to be a student or faculty member. The Music Media Center opened its doors to students and faculty this year for listening to, studying and composing music. A 7,000-item musical-recording collection, computerized catalog system, laser and compact disc players, cassette and video recorders, and the

"Multicultural" may not be a word found in a computer's spell-check, but that may soon change.

latest electronic keyboards are now available to the campus population.

UCI Profits From Gifts

Money is the lifeblood of a university, and this year, the UC Irvine campus was as healthy as could be. UCI's Beckman Institute received a $2 million gift from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation to fund the treatment of children with disfiguring birthmarks and the research to discover more effective methods of treatment.

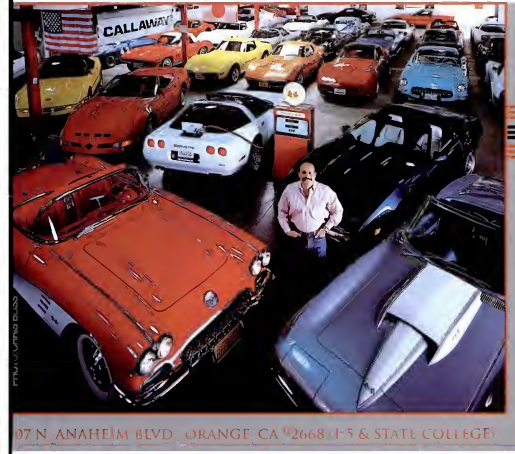
In other departments, Louise Turner Arnold endowed a chair in the neurosciences for $1.6 million, the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clark Foundation donated $1 million for research in atmospheric chemistry and geosciences, and Safi and Anita Qureshey donated $1 million to support the expansion of the Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory.

Interdisciplinary Studies Established

"Multicultural" may not be a word found in a computer's spell-check, but that may soon change. Academic programs have been formed in African-American, Asian-American, Chicano/Latino, Global Peace and Conflict, Latin-American and Women's Studies. The programs are in various stages of development, with the exception of the Asian-American Studies, now being offered at the university as a minor.

Truman Scholarship Awarded to UCI Student

There's a first for everything. The Harry S. Truman Foundation in Washington, D.C. presented a Truman Scholarship to Nguyen-Hong Hoang, the first UCI student to receive the award, which is among the most prestigious and sought-after scholarships in the country. Eighty winners were chosen from nearly 1,000 applicants interested in pursuing a career in public service. The scholarship begins in the senior year of undergraduate study and continues through graduate study. OC



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TURKISH





Turkey has more to offer than just colorful bazaars. Despite westernization, the country has retained its older customs and charm.

Text and Photography by
Michele and Tom Grimm



DELIGHTS



"I'm a jet-setter," the tour guide brags to his visitors. "I live in Asia, but I work in Europe." He's quick to admit, though, he takes a bus—not a plane—to his job. "After all, I have only to cross the Bosphorous River."

His home is Istanbul, Turkey, the ancient and mystifying

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Bargaining is a must at any bazaar. Shopkeepers expect it, and you are expected to play the game.

city that spans two continents and has been the crossroads of the East and West for centuries. Huge mosques with rounded domes and towering minarets distinguish the skyline of Istanbul, where poorly dressed street peddlers and shoeshine boys run counterpoint to the shop windows that gleam with gold jewelry and signs that beckon tourists and welcome credit cards. In the Grand Bazaar, a labyrinth of covered passageways and 4,000 shops, traditional Turkish brassware and water pipes are sold side-by-side with knock-offs of Chanel purses and Izod shirts. Here it's just as common to see women in fashionable jeans and designer dresses as it is to see men kneeling in the streets in their daily prayers toward Mecca.

The cacophony of this cosmopolitan city is increased by the piercing cries of muezzins whose job it is to call faithful Muslims to prayer five times each day. Their shouts are amplified by loudspeakers high in the minarets that surround Istanbul's 400 mosques. Except during times of prayer, visitors are welcome inside the sanctuaries, where shoes must be removed and left at the entrance.

Many American travelers are discovering that Istanbul is one of the world's most exciting destinations, and the name of the nation's famous candy, Turkish delight, also describes the city.

Founded by the Greeks in 667 B.C., Istanbul is layered with the remains of the great Byzantine, Roman and Ottoman empires. Turkey was born when the latter empire of the Turks finally ended with the overthrow of its sultan early in this century. After the establishment of the republic in 1923, Turkey's first president, Kemal Ataturk, began a campaign to westernize the country, despite the fact that most of its territory lies in Asia Minor, not Europe, and that 98 percent of Turks are Muslim.

In a move toward westernization, Ataturk changed his nation from an Islamic to a secular state; new laws forbade women to wear veils or men to wear the round, red caps called fezzes. Ataturk outlawed Arabic script and replaced it with the Latin alphabet. Even Turkey's largest city was renamed; Constantinople, a reminder of the Ottoman era, was changed to Istanbul.

Today, this city of several million people is part of a liberal Muslim country where all religions are accepted and practiced. The Turks, who share a border with Iraq, joined the Allied forces during the Gulf War. Needless to say, Americans are very welcome visitors.

The remarkably westernized population of Istanbul may disappoint some travelers who may be expecting a more exotic community, but some sights still attract attention, such as the produce-filled donkey carts that weave through the mass of cars, bicycles, buses, taxis and trucks in the city's bumper-to-bumper traffic.

While visitors can easily explore the busy city on their own with a good guidebook and map, it's worthwhile to learn about some of the local history and customs from an experienced Turkish guide on a half- or full-day bus tour. The most significant sites, including the best-known mosques and museums, are on the European (western) side of the Bosphorous River in the old walled section of the city. The area covers the seven hills of a promontory that is shaped by the waters of the Bosphorous River and the Golden Horn, a narrow inlet named for its gilded reflections of the setting sun.

Dominating a section of the old city is the Sultan Ahmet Mosque, a "must" on every sightseer's list. Better known as the Blue Mosque, its exterior is distinguished by six minarets; it is the only mosque in the world adorned with so many of the slender pointed towers. Inside the Blue Mosque is the main attraction: More than 20,000 ceramic tiles in 55 shades of blue that have been arranged primarily in floral designs to decorate the walls and columns that support the mosques' huge dome. Hundreds of electric lamps and stained-glass windows illuminate the tiles and the dozens of handsome prayer rugs that cover the floor.

Larger still, and equally impressive is the mosque of Sulemein the Magnificent, the 10th ruler of the Ottoman Empire. On Fridays, the major day of prayer, as well as on religious holidays, thousands of the faithful fill the enormous domed sanctuary and courtyards of the Suleymaniye Mosque that was built in the 1550s.

A thousand years earlier, Christian Emperor Justinian commissioned St. Sophia Church, a Byzantine showpiece with a splendid dome that was the largest in the world until St. Peter's Basilica was built in Rome. St. Sophia was later converted into a mosque, and since 1935, it has been a museum known as Haghia Sophia. Worth seeing also are the Christian mosaics that were restored after having been plastered over when the building became a Muslim place of worship.

Adjacent to St. Sophia is another museum, Topkapi Palace, the most extensive Turkish monument in Istanbul. Visitors often spend an entire day or more viewing the fascinating displays in its many buildings that include the Treasury and the Harem. Housed in the palace are the eighth-largest diamond in the world, the 86-carat Spoonmaker, and the famous dagger with an emerald-encrusted grip that was the object of



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thieves' desires in the 1964 hit movie, *Topkapi*. A guided tour of the Harem's elaborate private chambers reveals the unusual lifestyle that was once the norm of the sultans, their wives, concubines and eunuchs.

The enclosed maze of small shops known as the Grand or Covered Bazaar, is a challenge to explore without getting lost. Tour guides suggest following the main arched street, and if you take any of the side passageways, make certain to retrace your steps back to the main street to keep your bearings.

It's very easy to get distracted by the garish display of goods, which includes a mix of cheap souvenirs of brass, copper and onyx, and excellent-quality Turkish rugs, gold and silver jewelry, and leather goods. Avoid being seduced into buying antiques, however, which are illegal to export (and may very well be expensive fakes).

Bargaining is a must at any bazaar. Shopkeepers expect it, and you are expected to play the game. If you're serious about an item, offer 50 percent of the asking price. After a bit of friendly haggling, expect to pay 75 to 80 percent of the initially quoted price. Whether you're just browsing or in search of a particular item, it's customary for many shopkeepers to offer you a glass of apple tea, or thick, sweet Turkish coffee as you shop.

Another bustling bazaar that's fun to explore is the 17th century Egyptian Bazaar, also known as the Spice Bazaar. Herbs and spices were the main commodities in the bazaar's early days, but now television sets and other electronic goods are commonly found in many of the shops. Outside the bazaar, however, you can still find markets that have plenty of fresh flowers, fruit and fish for sale.

Istanbul has a number of upscale stores with high-quality merchandise

where shopkeepers accept credit cards and are happy to ship your purchases home. And don't be frightened by the exorbitant price tags quoted in Turkish lira; 10,000 lira is equal to about one U.S. dollar.

Turkish rugs and carpets are a favorite purchase of visitors, but beware of high-pressure salesmen. It's wise to visit a few Oriental carpet stores before leaving the states to learn about the different types of rugs available and the going rates in California. Especially popular are the traditional carpets of 100 percent wool and natural dyes woven by Turkish nomads, but there are also rugs of pure silk, as well as those in blends of wool and cotton. Avoid making a hasty purchase—shop around, as no two carpets are alike and you might find a design you like better at the store next door.

Unless you arrive in Istanbul by cruise ship and live on-board during your trip, stay in the novel and very comfortable Ayasofya Pansiyonlari, a row of charmingly renovated 300-year-old wooden guest houses just outside the walls of Topkapi Palace. Located on a quiet street closed off to traffic, the nine historic buildings that comprise Ayasofya Pansiyonlari each feature five to 10 guest rooms that have been redecorated in the style of the 19th century. Tassled armchairs, canopy-covered brass beds, and velvet curtains at the windows characterize the décor of each charming room. Guests may enjoy tea in the gardens, meals in either of two dining rooms, and a library.

Other lodging options include the more expensive chain hotels such as the Hilton, the Sheraton and the Ramada, or the newly opened Hyatt Regency Istanbul. You may also stay at Pera Palace, a classic grand hotel from the turn of the century.

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key's present and past in Istanbul, visitors should take time to explore all that the countryside has to offer. Easiest to reach are the many coastal attractions, especially the archaeological sites of Ephesus and Pergamum that are popular ports of call for cruise ships sailing the Aegean Sea. Along the Mediterranean Sea, charter boats often sail into Bodrum and Marmaris, two of Turkey's most stunning beach resorts. Overland excursions may be made to the Anatola, the vastly different interior of Asia Minor and the location of the nation's modern capital, Ankara.

Another favorite destination is the port of Kusadasi. Once considered the greatest city in Asia Minor, and now called the Jewel of the Aegean, Kusadasi is only a few miles from the Greek and Roman ruins at ancient Ephesus. The town has grown from a small fishing village to a seaside holiday resort that plays host to a Club Med. The most unique place to stay, however, is Club Caravanserail, a 300-year-old inn that was once a walled oasis for travelers and their animals. Visitors today enjoy 40 guest rooms dressed in Ottoman décor and a palm-shaded courtyard restaurant that becomes an open-air nightclub that features Turkish music, folk groups and belly dancers. The beaches along Bird Island, which is connected by a jetty, draw sunbathing vacationers who stay long past sunset for parties in the island's half-century-old fortress that has become a popular discotheque.

Sooner or later, everyone ventures to Ephesus, the site of one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World that was also a temple to the Ionian goddess Artemis (later worshipped as Diana in Roman times). Marble streets worn by the wheels of chariots, the imposing façade and statues of the Library of Celsus which date

back to 135 B.C., and a hillside amphitheater that seats as many as 25,000 spectators, are among the spectacular sites Espheus has to offer.

From Dikili, another port town along the Aegean Sea, visitors may travel inland through verdant fields where cotton and tobacco, among other crops, are still tended by hand—a reminder that much of Turkey remains an agricultural state and more than half its population continues to live the simple way of life.

At Bergama are the impressive remnants of Pergamum, an ancient Greek city that was later controlled by the Romans. A renowned healing center, Bergama features a marble altar engraved with a staff and serpent, now the internationally recognized symbol of modern medicine. Parchment was invented in Pergamum, which was once also home to a world-class library of 200,000 books.

Visitors have long been attracted to Turkey by its archaeological sites, but there is so much more to see and discover—from the shopping bazaars and beach resorts to the hospitable Turkish people—that makes the East-meets-West nation such a remarkable place to vacation. OC

For more information about tours to Turkey, contact your travel agent or a cruise company. For cruises in the Aegean Sea, including visits to Istanbul, Kusadasi and Dikili, contact Sun Line Cruises at 800-872-6400. You may also write the Turkish Tourist Office at 821 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, or call 212-687-2194.

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president of Warren Imports, a prestigious Laguna Beach antiques dealer. Driven by a 30-year obsession, May roams the world in search of the elusive, the rare and the beautiful.

Serious collectors can't put a name on their mania for fine antiques. Call it a passion, an endless quest for rarity and refinement, says Richard Yeakel, another respected dealer and avid world traveler.

And they won't deny their love affair with the past. Passionate collectors seem to exist solely for two reasons—discovery and ownership. "You might go years without finding something," says May. "Then one day you'll spot 10 objects of beauty you can't resist buying."

The good news is, collectors may no longer have to wait years. For the well-versed collector of high-end antiques, there seems to be no better time to buy than the present. Shops are overstocked with everything from rare fabrics to ancient statuary, and the quality of many of the pieces is so high that museums from around the world have joined in the chase.

Prices for the finest high-end antiques are holding steady from a few years ago, and may even be showing signs of falling. All the while, shopkeepers have in their possession items that haven't been seen in years. The one-of-a-kind piece you thought adorned someone else's Palm Beach estate might possibly be sitting in a Newport Beach antique store waiting for a new home. The sagging economy that has affected both collectors and impulse buyers has left retailers with a treasure trove of items. "There's a lot out there if [you're willing to] look," says Costa Mesa antiques appraiser Sheryl Gillett.

Older collectors, bent on selling off their collections to fund their retire-

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The rarest objects will always command a heady price.

ments, have always been a source of new finds on the market. But now, younger, cash-strapped owners are selling off heirlooms and auctioning possessions in record numbers. Many are being forced to sell as a result of relocation, divorce settlements or financial hardship.

Store closures and bankruptcies, especially among the smaller auction houses along the East Coast, are adding to the profusion of quality pieces on the market. Prices are beginning to fall while inventories are increasing like never before, even in the modest, lower-priced antiques arena, where copies of original period pieces and faddish memorabilia abound.

"It's always a good time to buy quality," says appraiser Stephen Caudana, Sheryl Gillett's husband and business partner. "Right now, it's a very good time to buy high-quality antiques because prices for many things are quite reasonable."

Since the Eighties, when prices began spiraling out of control, retailers have been left to cope with the aftermath of an antique binge-buying craze that drove prices up and then back down again. Dealers are doing everything to reverse the sharp decline in business that has shaken the industry and felled even world-class emporiums in such shopping meccas as London and New York. Even in the local Orange County market, "business has dropped considerably," says dealer Robert H. Pyke, owner of The Bishop's Antiques, a small, high-end shop in Laguna Beach, the hub of many of Orange County's finest antique stores.

Today, banks are hesitant to lend to retailers or show confidence in the investment status of antiques. Loans, which traditionally allowed dealers the freedom to buy new pieces, have gone the way of the Ming Dynasty, and many dealers are said to be cash-poor, saddled with an ever-increasing debt while the cost of maintaining their opulent stock continues to rise.

A few retailers have managed to stay healthy during the economic uncertainty, but others are barely surviving, says Pyke, who adds that most retailers try to tempt collectors with superior quality and fair prices.

Certainly, the rarest objects will always command a heady price, and dealers with the taste and business acumen to second-guess the buying public are reaping big profits from such sales. Sales of trendy items such as German Biedermeier furniture or Chinese porcelain can keep a dealer warm for the winter. And though popular items are usually scarce, it is their scarcity that makes them so highly prized and drives up their value and price.

But most dealers, like collectors, insist they aren't in the business for the money, but endure purely out of a love of beauty. The business is comprised of a small circle of antiques aficionados who know each other well and often double in their roles as buyers and sellers. Most dealers are also private collectors who initially got into the business by collecting. Many collectors often spend years doing business by buying from and often re-selling the same items to the same dealers. It is also very common for dealers to deal among themselves or with auctioneers, who in turn buy and sell to other dealers.

Veteran retailer G. R. Durenberger, owner of Durenberger and Friends in San Juan Capistrano, says this "self-renewing" aspect of the antiques business keeps beautiful pieces "recycled" among collectors who can truly appreciate their aesthetic value. It also tends to shut out high-rolling specu-

lators who invest in antiques for the sole purpose of turning a profit.

The market for antiques may be global in scope, but it is also a very small, local business, notes Tom Stansbury of Stansbury Antiques in Newport Beach. At any given time, the greatest percentage of business comes from about 10 clients. "These 10 clients may change, but [the number is constant]," says Stansbury.

Avid collectors such as multimillionairess Joan Irvine Smith stake their reputations on their collections and guard their possessions as carefully as their privacy. They typically shun publicity, and dealers do their best to maintain the confidentiality of their transactions. Dealers "live or die by [their] reputation," says Yeakel, who claims he doesn't open his Laguna Beach store to browsers or casual shoppers. "By Appointment Only" is the way this second-generation dealer shows his pieces.

Indeed, there's a hushed, rarified air that surrounds the art of buying and selling antiques. At the high end, "it's not the man on the street who seeks us out," says Barbara Harwell, co-owner of Durenberger and Friends in San Juan Capistrano. Harwell says she primarily sells to friends and wouldn't think of violating this arrangement with dishonesty or mistrust. In most cases, dealers don't have to persuade collectors to buy; the antiques usually sell themselves. According to May, dealers are there to offer judgment and expertise.

Expertise among individual dealers, of course, varies greatly. The better dealers have extensive knowledge of not only what's popular but also the history and quality of timeless pieces. Yeakel, for instance, can speak knowledgeably about most of the pieces in his small but otherwise well-stocked shop, while another

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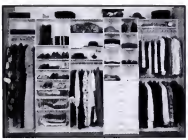
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Retailers buy only when they know they're getting something truly remarkable.

dealer we spoke to had to look up the spelling of "Biedermeier," and wasn't sure of what kind of wood a prized 17th century Italian desk standing in his own showroom was constructed. But dealers often make up for this disparity by networking closely with each other. Competition among dealers is so amicable, in fact, that they routinely refer customers to one another and frequently become partners in related ventures.

Alliances are good, perhaps, because at least locally the business has displayed some stability, despite the precarious state of the economy. Traditionally, the demand for high-end antiques has remained strong. But that hasn't been the case recently, says Samuel Pennington, publisher of *Maine Antique Digest*, a regional magazine so widely read it's used as a national business barometer of the antiques industry. According to Pennington, demand at the upper end has slackened. Wealthy private collectors are shopping for value and taking their time before buying. Like dealers, they constantly search for the right balance of beauty and price. Many have opted to hold on to their money, passing up excellent buys in search of one extraordinary find.

Interior designers, who buy for their clients and have seen their own business plummet by as much as 40 percent, have also shied away from antiques. "Right now, prices are a big factor," says Jason Titus, an Irvine-based interior designer. And designers are not alone. Retailers have also become skittish about buying. Though they might spend more in the end, they buy only when they know they're getting something truly remarkable, Stansbury says.

David Moore of Atwater, California-based Bustamante Enterprises, a firm that produces antique shows, contends that business is, for the most part, down everywhere. But by comparison, "the high-end stuff is actually moving best. It's the middle and low ends that have been hardest hit," he says.

To say they've been hard-hit may be putting it lightly. Dan Petru, own-



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er of Old Country Antiques, a shop in Orange that specializes in imported middle-end furniture, says business has dropped by at least 30 percent from two years ago. Petru and partner Josh Ursu opened Old Country in January after closing a store in Pasadena. Now they're wondering if it wasn't a mistake. "People are mostly buying small items and ignoring the large antiques, which is where we make most of our money," says Petru.

For shoppers, that's precisely what makes it a great time to buy, contends Andrea Wolford of Once Upon A Time, a Huntington Beach dealer of middle-end fine furniture and accessories. Retailers are overstocked and facing great pressure to make deals, says Wolford. "I'd be willing to negotiate with an interested buyer just to avoid having to sit on the inventory," she confesses.

In trade jargon, "high end" usually means high-quality furniture, jewelry, pottery and other decorative art pieces that appraisers consider the finest examples of their period, and that are at least a century old. Antiquities or artifacts from ancient Greece or Rome are not considered part of the antiques market.

High-end pieces are characterized by their high intrinsic value, and superiority of design, materials and craftsmanship. Pieces must be originals, not copies, and should be in excellent condition. A high-end piece should also offer evidence that its makers intended the object to be used by someone of wealth, Caudana says.

Provenance, another factor behind quality, denotes the piece's lineage by providing a precise history of previous owners. Therefore, a Dickens writing desk, for example, would be nearly priceless if it could be proven that somewhere along the line it was

used by E. M. Forster and owned by William Randolph Hearst.

High-end antiques usually retail for astounding prices compared to those in the middle- and low-end range. For example, Yeakel recently sold a French walnut card table with a woven needlepoint top for just under $100,000. But most high-end objects sell for considerably less. A Chinese carved rose-quartz horse, for example, was listed by Warren Imports at $5,000, and Stansbury is offering a 19th century etched Georgian silver serving tray for $3,200.

The middle end is comprised of good reproductions and rare period pieces, especially of American heritage. These often command high prices, but are usually nowhere near the price range or quality of fine Asian and 18th century European objects. Therefore, while age is sometimes a factor in determining value, this is not always the case.

The low-end market is usually an odd assortment of collectors' memorabilia—perfume bottles, Marilyn Monroe photographs and Howdy Doody dolls. But even in the low-end arena, there are gems to be had, including rare baseball cards that often fetch thousands of dollars at public auctions.

With all antiques, quality goes a long way in determining price. But at the high end, rarity, popularity, fashion and taste, historical period and state of repair figure more prominently in deciding price than in the lower markets.

A piece's prior selling price and the value of similar items on the open market—especially at auctions held by Christie's and Sotheby's, the world's largest auctioneers—also influence price. With few exceptions, most respectable dealers closely watch prices and business trends as



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reflected in the major antiques magazines and the buyer's guides published by auctioneers.

Yeakel, who buys mostly in Europe, insists he sets his own prices and doesn't bother with local retailers' or auction trends. Instead, he prices his stock according to the world market.

Veteran dealer Harry J. Lawrence, owner of Warren Imports and a world authority of Oriental antiques, says he tries to set prices below world markets. He does so, he says, because among retailers, "Warren Imports *is* the world market." His claim has merit. Lawrence's dazzling Laguna Beach store (he also owns a second shop in Palm Desert) is literally stocked to the ceiling with rare and one-of-a-kind jade, wall hangings, silk fabrics, Byobu screens, rugs, jewelry, furniture, vases and figurines. The shop holds a fortune in inventory gathered from more than a hundred buying trips to Asia, and in many cases, the antiques are the only surviving pieces of their kind in the world.

Lawrence says he disdains the rampant overpricing of antiques that routinely pass for rare objects in New York, San Francisco and Beverly Hills. In his crowded upstairs office, he points to the rose-quartz horse he's priced at $5,000. He says the same figurine in New York would list for $50,000.

"People are foolish at auctions," contends Lawrence. "You take two or three people bidding on something and it takes the value of a piece out of the blue." But in setting prices, mistakes can and do occur. Appraisers who mistake an excellent copy of an 18th century Chippendale chair for one built a century later can erroneously drive up the price of an antique that, while still beautiful, is not authentic. Then there are the outright frauds who inflate prices and then suddenly send them plummeting.

Antiques appraisers figure prominently in determining the value and, therefore, the probable price of an object. But appraising is far from being an exact science, and a number of professional antiques appraisers hold questionable credentials. Outside of membership in professional groups, there are currently no licensing or credentialing requirements set by regulatory agencies. The American Society of Appraisers, however, to which Gillett and Caudana belong, requires would-be members to pass a tough entrance exam.

There is speculation, too, that dealers who also act as appraisers on behalf of collectors run a serious credibility risk. Collectors are wise to get more than one independent appraisal before closing a deal. An appraiser can fraudulently assess the value of a $500 bowl at $50, buy it from an unwary collector, and then sell it at a higher value. "There's too much room for deceit," says Harwell of Durenberger and Friends.

The whole mania for antiques, fraudulent or otherwise, reached its zenith in the Eighties when investors rushed in to buy up anything of value. Speculators caused prices to skyrocket, making some dealers and collectors very wealthy.

The feeding frenzy showed no signs of satiation, recalls Durenberger. "Everyone had this hysterical idea that no matter what you paid, it was going to be worth more tomorrow," he says.

The speculators were right. The dollar appreciation of most antiques went through the roof, while their aesthetic value, in many cases, went out the window. Investors fed off each other and drove prices even higher. Finally, when the recession struck and a number of banks failed,

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the upward spiral collapsed.

Of course, even today, most high-end antiques consistently appreciate in value. But it happens over time, Caudana cautions, and antiques rarely appreciate uniformly.

"Antiques defy all logical accounting rules," Stansbury says. In any case, collecting for investment purposes isn't where the emphasis should be, he adds.

Durenberger agrees. "You should buy antiques first and foremost for their beauty," he says. "If you're buying them as investments, invest in real estate or the stock market instead."

Aesthetic appreciation is one thing, but like any business, the antiques trade relies on currency to stay solvent. Hard times and tight credit have given most dealers the pinch, and for ardent collectors who can afford the pricey hobby of collecting, there's no better time to barter. "Car lots and antiques dealers are the only places left where people can dicker over price," Stansbury says.

With certain exceptions, dealers are willing to take less for some pieces if it means improving their cash flow and clearing their floors. Most would have you consider them first rather than trying Sotheby's or Christie's, where good objects are likely to fetch higher prices.

Selling or buying directly from a retailer usually means quick and easy deals made on a more personal, friendly basis. These are important considerations if you are a serious collector who needs to raise cash quickly and will want to do repeat business later.

In any case, experts advise buyers and sellers to stay informed. Learn as much as possible before dabbling in antique collecting. The more you know, the better you'll appreciate the aesthetic and financial value of your collection. OC

ANTIQUES: WHERE TO SHOP

Shopping for antiques? Know how much you want to spend before going out to browse. And unless you ask, it isn't easy to tell which dealers specialize in what. Listed below are some of the more notable dealers.

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Corona del Mar, 675-2583

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131 N. Glassell
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A Second Wind, a New Generation

By Keith Tuber

They never achieved the enduring fame of the Beatles or the Rolling Stones, and unlike The Who or The Kinks, their records have been out of print for nearly two decades. There was a time, however, when the Dave Clark Five (DC5) rode a wave of huge success and popularity. It was known as the British Invasion, an aural and visual assault on the ears and eyes of America's youth that became the Waterloo for such suddenly passé crooners as Bobby Vinton, Steve Lawrence, Bobby Vee and Pat Boone.

Some of us still have vivid memories of the DC5 riding shotgun with the Beatles in 1964. Such songs as "Glad All Over," "Bits And Pieces" and "Because" shared chart space with "Can't Buy Me Love," "Do You Want To Know A Secret" and "A Hard Day's Night." Indeed, there were many a hard day's night for Dave Clark and his band, the first English group to tour the United States and perform 18 times on the legendary *Ed Sullivan Show*.

"It was phenomenal," recalls Clark, at a stop in the Southland on a recent promotional tour. "You can't explain it. It was absolutely unbelievable. When we arrived at Kennedy Airport [in New York], there were 3,500 people there [to greet us]. They had to stop all the planes coming in," he says. "[Things] happened for us in America in a matter of weeks. Our first record came out in January of '64, and it [made it to the charts] in February. We did two [*Ed*] *Sullivan Shows*, and all of a sudden we had six records in the Top 20—all within an eight-week period," Clark says, still amazed by the band's rapid success. "We [began] touring America in May, playing for 60,000 people a night. [All of this took place in] a space of about 12 to 14 weeks."



The Dave Clark Five with Ed Sullivan.

Now that vinyl recordings have gone the way of the dinosaur, little has been heard from this popular Liverpool quintet that sold more than 50 million records before fading off into extinction in April 1970.

Until now.

Clark, the drummer who founded the Dave Clark Five in Tottenham, England, in 1960, has compiled a comprehensive 50-song, double compact disc set entitled *The History of the Dave Clark Five*. A motherlode of nostalgic dance tunes, the generous collection includes the artist's favorite album tracks, B-sides and other rarities culled from the masters to preserve the integrity of the recordings.

But don't speak of the Dave Clark Five's music in nostalgic terms. Clark certainly doesn't. He believes his music is as appealing to today's youth as it was to their parents.

"This collection is for the people who made it a part of their lives," says Clark, "but the amazing thing about Sixties music is that a whole new generation is into it. I own a series called *Ready, Steady, Go!* that I bought in the Seventies. I purposely didn't do anything with it, and wouldn't sell off any clips. My accountant went crazy when I said I wanted to wait until the 20-year cycle, then put it out so the new genera-

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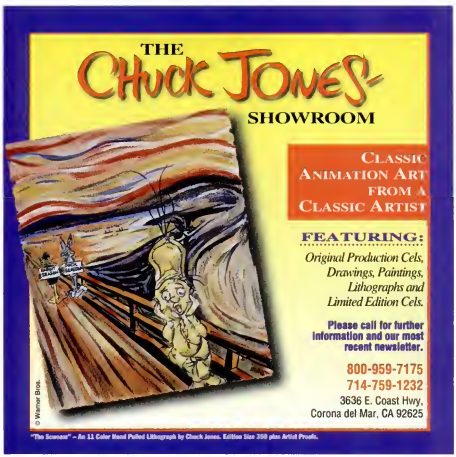
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tion could experience it." Clark's foresight was right on target. "We put [the series] out on video and it went to No. 1 around the world. In fact, in Japan, it was the biggest selling music video ever. It was No. 1 for five or six months."

His next move was to air the series on United Kingdom television where it reached the top 5 in the ratings. Viewers wrote 100,000 letters, 80 percent of which were from people who weren't even born in the Sixties. "They loved the show and loved the music and wished they had [grown up] in the Sixties," says Clark.

Then he tackled America. "I put [the series] out on the Disney Channel here in December of '89 and it ran until '91, and they got sack loads of mail," he says proudly. "And again, 70 to 80 percent of the people who responded said they weren't born in the Sixties, but they loved the music." If Dave Clark's intuition is anything like his business acumen, expect the Dave Clark Five to experience a major renaissance.

A high-school dropout at the age of 15, Clark and his friend, guitarist Chris Walls, decided to start a group to finance their rugby team's trip to the Netherlands. They advertised in the pop music weekly *Melody Maker*, and before long had formed a band and started rehearsals.

At the time, each of the DC5's musicians kept his day job. Clark worked as a film extra, his first step toward fulfilling a dream of becoming an actor. He got his big break when a stunt man broke his leg during a shoot and Clark volunteered to take his place. Clark worked through the night as a stand-in and was paid £300 for his trouble, a small fortune at the time. But rather than spend it frivolously, Clark decided to invest the money in his future.

"The Dave Clark Five was basical-

ly a live band," Clark says. "During '63 we got the Gold Cup for being the best live band in Britain. We were packing in 6,000 people a night, five nights a week for 18 months, so we got two recording offers from major companies. In those days there [was] an in-house producer who [told] you what songs to record. They wanted to package you and make you into what was successful at that moment, whatever was the flavor of the month. That wasn't the DC5." Instead, Clark and the DC5 found success by cultivating a distinctive sound. "I believe you have to be honest with yourself. If you believe that the direction you want to go is the right direction, then you should do it."

Clark did more than finance the production of his group's first record and lease its rights. He also became DC5's producer and manager, keeping a tight rein on the quintet's career. While other bands were being cheated out of millions by unscrupulous or naive representation, the Dave Clark Five was getting rich.

"Most [bands] ended up with nothing," Clark says, "which was very sad. It's almost like being a [professional] athlete. You have a certain amount of time [in which you are viable.] You should reap the rewards."

After a string of hits, Clark disbanded the group in 1970. He had begun taking acting lessons during the band's last year together, and found solace in studying the works of such playwrights as Ibsen, Shakespeare and Chekov. He concentrated on drama and theater for three years at London's prestigious Central School of Speech and Drama, of which Sir Laurence Olivier was a patron, and later continued his studies at the famous Actors' Studio in Hollywood under the tutelage of Lee Strasberg.

Ironically, it was Clark who direct-

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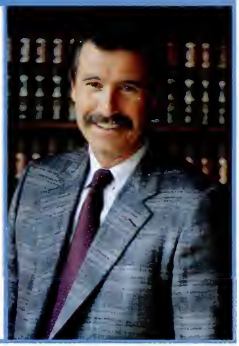
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ed Olivier in his last performance. The musician had co-written and produced a musical called *Time*, in which he convinced Olivier to star. The show broke box-office records in London's West End, eventually playing to more than a million people.

Clark then produced *Time—The Album*, a double album that included performances by Olivier, as well as Cliff Richard, Freddie Mercury, Julian Lennon, Dionne Warwick, Burt Bacharach, Ashford & Simpson and Stevie Wonder. The album went on to spawn hits in the U.K. by Lennon, Richard and Mercury. And in Australia, Olivier—at 80 years of age—had his first hit single for narrating "The Theme From Time," thus becoming the first lord of the realm to achieve top-5 chart status. It is a memory Clark will never forget.

"Olivier was a great inspiration to me," says Clark. "I wanted him to play a part in a musical I'd written, and also to narrate the album. Everybody said I'd never get him. But I've always been a firm believer that if you shoot for the moon, you stand a chance of reaching the stars, and with Olivier I think I was very blessed to get a very special star."

Clark's own star has shined brightly as well, both as a musician and as a businessman. Now that *The History of the Dave Clark Five* is in record stores, the artist is preparing a boxed set that could include up to twice as many songs. After that, there's no telling what he might come up with next.

"I'm somebody who goes on impulse," Clark explains. "If something came up and it was exciting, I'd give 100 percent. I've learned now in my life never to say never—ever—because you don't know what's around the corner. And with me, if it's something that really fires me up, I'll do it. That's the way I am." OC

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Yes, Virginia, There Are Other Christmas Shows

By Marc Weinberg

I don't know about you, but I'm sick of *It's A Wonderful Life*. Come Christmas, if you turn on the television set, you're sure to hear Jimmy Stewart and company singing "Auld Lang Syne." Now don't get me wrong, I'm a sentimental guy. The first hundred times I saw the movie, I wept like a baby. But my response now is a little different. I believe life *would* be better without George Bailey.

Lest you start feeling the same way, know there are other programs that celebrate the holiday season without making a single reference to "ZuZu's petals." Over the years, television has managed to produce quite a few memorable shows that capture the spirit of the season. While some may be hard to find or may not yet be available on videotape, if you thumb through your video store's library or flip through the channels a few weeks before Christmas, you'll be pleasantly surprised by the number of holiday features available.

Titles available on videotape are indicated by an asterisk (*).

*The Simpson's Christmas Special**

The pilot for Matt Groening's award-winning series is also one of his best-written episodes. When Homer Simpson is denied his annual Christmas bonus, he works as a department-store Santa to earn money to buy presents for the family. The episode is a wonderful example of the program's biting wit and yet still manages to convey a valuable message and be sentimental at the same time. This is an outstanding show that is worth seeing each year.

*How The Grinch Stole Christmas**

This Dr. Seuss story, adapted by long-time Warner Bros. animator Chuck Jones, has been a holiday institution since it was first broadcast in the Sixties. This charming, sardonic tale details the efforts of the mean-spirited Grinch as he steals Christmas from the kind-hearted residents of Whoville. Boris Karloff provides the narration and the appropriately Grinchy voice.



It's still Christmas without It's A Wonderful Life.

*A Charlie Brown Christmas**

The first animated Peanuts special in which Charlie Brown seeks to discover the meaning of Christmas is still the best. Although the animation pales in comparison to contemporary standards, the Emmy award-winning Charles Schulz story and musical score by the late Vince Guaraldi are timeless.

*It's Christmastime Again, Charlie Brown**

Creator Charles Schulz' 1992 return to TV animation is a complete misfire; rather than offering us a single story line, he opts for several poorly developed tangents that attempt to focus

Rod Sterling's
"Night of the Meek"
is the perfect
holiday fantasy.

on each cast member. But in doing so, he pulls the viewer in too many directions, so that while individual moments are memorable, the program is not an overall success.

*A Wish For Wings That Work**

Opus and Bill, the stars of Berkeley Breathed's clever and satiric syndicated comic strips "Bloom County" and now "Outland," make an unsuccessful leap to the small screen despite the handiwork of Steven Spielberg, who lent his talents as producer. In the story, Opus (the penguin) writes Santa asking for wings that will allow him to fly. It's an endearing notion, but it fails to capture the caustic wit of Breathed's comic strips. Worse yet, after establishing the premise, the story misses the mark in its attempts go anywhere, so what should have been a Christmas classic becomes watchable only for its outstanding animation and musical score.

*Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol**

Produced in the early Sixties, this musical adaptation of Dickens' ubiquitous holiday classic is surprisingly faithful to the original, with Magoo in the title role of Ebenezer Scrooge. The presentation even offers a few hummable show tunes.

*Twilight Zone**

Rod Serling's "Night of the Meek" is the perfect holiday fantasy about a ghetto department-store Santa who wants nothing more than to give presents to everyone. Endearing, sentimental and humorous, this episode represents one of Serling's finest works. The remake, produced for the recently syndicated *Twilight Zone* series, is remarkably enough, almost equal in merit to the original. Art Carney starred in the original, while Richard Mulligan appears in the recent version. The Serling original is available on videotape, and both the new and old *Twilight Zone* episodes are in syndication locally on KTLA, Channel 5.

*Ziggy's Christmas**

Overlooked at the time of its release, this touching, sentimental tale finds Ziggy, the perpetual underdog, troubled by a con man dressed up like Old St. Nick.

The Andy Griffith Show

Andy encounters a miserly old fellow determined to see a bootlegger thrown in jail for the holidays. While the episode is not available on videotape, the series airs regularly on KTTV, Channel 11, and on TBS.

Dobie Gillis

A number of truly terrific Christmas episodes came out this series, but a favorite finds Dobie and family trying to prove to Maynard G. Krebs there is no Santa. The episode is not available on videotape, but the series appears nightly on the cable station, Nickelodeon.

The Brady Bunch

Who can forget this holiday classic in which Carol Brady (Florence Henderson) loses her voice the night before a church recital. This episode is so sweet you'll need an insulin shot afterward, but for good, campy humor, it can't be beat. That is, unless you can find a copy of the Brady reunion movie, *A Very Brady Christmas*. This adventure finds Michael Brady (played by the late Robert Reed) trapped in a crumbling building and rescued by his family, who literally sing him to safety. OC

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And The Winner Is...

By Tom Singer

While the rest of the state will be singing *Auld Lang Syne* on New Year's Eve, Orange County sports fans will be moved to croon their own dirge, *(The Same) Old Dang Sins*. If you don't know the words, Neil Diamond's "Song Sung Blue" will do as theme music for the presentation of *Orange Coast*'s annual Fanatic Awards, or Fannies for short.

Sig Alert Of The Year—Following a winter of upheaval that was supposed to jump-start them into success, the only thing the Angels could muster was a steady idle. Their 1992 record: 72-90. Their 1993 record: 71-90. Any rush-hour Riverside Freeway commuter knows how that feels.

Entrepreneur of the Year—Jackie Autry. On the other hand, the Angels lopped seven zeroes off their payroll—that is, from the salaries of Bryan Harvey, Jim Abbott, Gary Gaetti, without losing more games or ticket sales. Bad year? What bad year?

If A Tree Falls...—Another season of college football is under way, but officials at Cal State Fullerton, UC Irvine and Chapman University, schools that have shied away from the sport, say they don't know anything about the matter.

Bright Lights, Big City—Orange County's pretension to be an urbane, hip, cosmopolitan place is shattered when we take to drooling over the Anaheim Bullfrogs.

When Hell Froze Over—After completing their 1992 season with an embarrassing loss to Fresno State in the Freedom Bowl, the USC Trojans vowed they'd return to Anaheim Stadium "when pigs fly." The Trojans began 1993 with an equally dismal showing in the Disneyland Pigskin Classic.

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Since 1990, the Angels have had two club presidents (Gene Autry and Richard Brown) and three general managers (Mike Port, Dan O'Brien and Whitey Herzog), but not a single winning record.

Cross-Marketing of the Year—The Mighty Ducks of Hollywood begot the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim.

Mismarketing of the Year—The Arrowhead Water Co. paid millions for title rights to the Pond at the Anaheim Arena. The bottlers could have better spent that money expanding their business into Kansas City, where there already exists an Arrowhead Stadium—free of charge.

Missed Marketing Opportunity of the Year—A Jim Everett/Disneyland tie-in. The Happiest Feet In The World visit the Happiest Place On Earth.

Of Mice And Men Award—The Angels, whose relief plans truly went

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awry. They claimed they dumped Bryan Harvey because of his bum elbow, not his staggering $4.5 million contract. Harvey stayed healthy and saved 45 games for Florida. The California bullpen menagerie accumulated only 29 saves, and a score of relief pitchers who, by the way, suffered their own elbow difficulties.

Most Humble—Jim Everett. "Bleeping ridiculous," he said, when asked whether he might be on the way out as the Rams' starting quarterback. Actually, he had the correct answer to a different question, which is "How have you been playing?"

Diplomat of the Year—Wayne Gretzky. He skipped the Kings' exhibition game against the Mighty Ducks at the Pond, only to be spotted the following day at batting practice across the street at Anaheim Stadium. Great One, Wayne.

Biggest Draw of the Year—Nolan Ryan's premature (by 10 days) farewell appearance at Anaheim Stadium on September 17. This turned out to be the last noteworthy performance of Ryan's 27-year career, due to the disabling arm injury he suffered in the outing. By 1998, the number of people who will claim to have been there will reach 462,718.

B-Movie Lot of the Year—Anaheim Stadium baseball fans, who don't figure to appear in any World Series footage any time soon, got their chance at the big screen when production companies filmed them for crowd shots for two movies, *Rudy* and *Angels In The Outfield*.

Daddy Dearest—While J.T. Snow was electrifying the Angels in April, Papa Jack Snow was expressing his praise and pride on KMPC radio and anywhere else people would listen. Then J.T. was sent to Vancouver. Papa Jack should have been sent to Dr. Joyce Brothers.

Cameo of the Year—Kelly Gruber,

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who was acquired by the Angels last winter from the Toronto Blue Jays. Between old and new injuries, he appeared in maybe a dozen games. Thanks for dropping in, Kelly.

White Lie of the Year—Magic Johnson. He pulled the plug on a much-promoted all-star exhibition days before the Anaheim Arena event. He blamed the cancellation on too many of the players involved having just signed 1993 NBA contracts, depleting rosters to nonrepresentative levels. But wouldn't you like to know how many tickets had been sold for that nonevent?

Trouble Spot of the Year—Nike Town. The Costa Mesa outpost was already dying before pairs of Nike shoes started coming unglued while sprinters were wearing them at the International Track Championships, and before several college-prep basketball players faced ineligibility for participating in a Nike-sponsored tournament. Oh, and then Michael Jordan retired.

Elephantine Memory of the Year—Following Jim Abbott's no-hitter for the New York Yankees on September 4, the Angels were kind enough to acknowledge on the stadium video board the feat by the pitcher they had dealt with nine months earlier. Fade out. Then came a bellow from the stands, aimed at the executive box: "Nice trade, Whitey!"

Philanthropist of the Year—The anonymous gent who lost his head (for a good cause) when he bid $7,000 for an autographed Kareem Abdul-Jabbar jersey at Byron Scott's Challenge For Children auction.

Costliest Promotion—Pizza Hut awarded a year's supply of free pizzas to fans chosen at each Sunday game who could catch three consecutive fly balls. Funny, all season, no one could do it. Of course, Luis Polonia was never chosen. OC

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The Case of the Maligned Man

By Thomas G. Martin

As I enter my 25th year of investigative service, this case—the first since my switch from the public sector as a supervisory federal agent with the U.S. Department of Justice to the private sector as an investigator—is one of my most memorable and satisfying. Here's why.

As the new P.I. in town, I had an empty Rolodex, a bare desk, and a phone that never rang. But things soon changed, and I got my first client. Jeff* was a man who had been sentenced to 10 years in prison and was out on appeal of his conviction for 18 counts that included child sodomy and rape. Jeff's Orange County judge and jury had not believed he was innocent. I took the case because I had time, and even though Jeff had no money, our pairing was a harmonic convergence of sorts.

Jeff insisted he had not sexually molested or otherwise harmed his stepdaughter. That said, I spent the next two days reading the transcript of the trial. But just between you and me, on the basis of the transcript alone I, too, would have concluded that Jeff was guilty. Nevertheless, I conducted numerous interviews that kept turning up a common response: "I can't believe Jeff did this."

Then, in one of those rare instances in which life is actually fair, I found the stepdaughter Karen*'s diary. The August 22 entry read: "Gary* devirginized me today." If this were true, then Jeff was an innocent man. Somehow, I had to find Gary—and I did. An Army private stationed in Germany, Gary confirmed he had, in fact, "devirginized" Karen. He also told me Karen had fabricated the molestation story so she and her mother could get all of Jeff's assets rather than the customary 50 percent awarded in California divorce proceedings. Gary also told me about Karen's best friend Theresa*. He said if I could track her down, she would be able to confirm his story.

Not only did Theresa, whom I found in Virginia, confirm the story, she also told me she was upset with Karen. That made sense, but she said she was even more upset with the Orange County district attorney who had prosecuted the case—which did not make sense.

According to Theresa, Karen, who had been about 15 years old at the time of the alleged molestation, dated the newly married district attorney when she was 17.

Not only had I gathered enough evidence to prove a man's innocence, I had also gathered a significant amount of evidence to prove another man's guilt.

I spent the next six weeks studying the best criminal attorneys in Orange County by sitting in on numerous trials, especially those involving allegations of murder, rape, or child molestation. I observed court-appointed and private-practice attorneys, and got referrals from the district attorney's office. Once I felt I had covered all my bases, I chose one of the best criminal attorneys in Orange County to represent Jeff.

During the course of the two-and-a-half-week hearing that included newly obtained evidence, Karen sat on the witness stand, clad in an ultra-conservative, Communion-style dress. Having noticed this, I leaned over to Jeff's attorney and said, "Ask her just one question. Ask her when she bought the dress." The attorney posed the question to Karen, who under oath, stated she had purchased the dress the previous night. Why? Because the district attorney told her to. The jury's verdict and Jeff's sentence from the first trial were thrown out by the same judge who had originally passed down Jeff's sentence. The district attorney undoubtedly regretted dating Karen; he was ultimately fired.

What's the moral of this story? Misery can be mitigated by knowledge. You need not face a decade in prison to benefit from such knowledge. If you've been involved in an automobile accident, you need to know the top personal-injury attorneys in Orange County. If you've received a letter from the Internal Revenue Service saying your tax statements are to be audited, you need to know who the best tax attorneys are and where you can find them. And if you win the lottery, you need to know the top people in Orange County with whom you can wisely invest your newly acquired fortune.

Please forward your ideas and experiences to me, c/o *Orange Coast*, for consideration in this column. Along with helpful tips you can use, I'll also include a list of the best people in Orange County to help mitigate the damage. After all, it could just make the difference between a life—and a life in prison. OC

**Although the information about this case is true, the names have been changed in the interest of privacy.*

Next month: Martin's Top Orange County Family Law Attorneys.

Thomas G. Martin, president of Martin Investigative Services in Orange, has directed his full-service agency in thousands of civil and criminal investigations for the past 12 years. He is also a former supervisory federal agent with the U.S. Department of Justice where he worked for 12 years enforcing domestic and international drug laws.

A Reader's Wish List

By Marylin Hudson

For one-stop holiday shopping, a bookstore can't be beat. Holiday gift list in hand, you can select books to fit every taste, price range, and subject, from art to zoology.

Is there someone on your list you'd like to keep awake all night, savoring a terrific read full of suspense, savagery, drama and terror? Juxtapose that with an innocent family, memorable characters, and a sinister conspiracy, and ***Mr. Murder*** (Putnam, $23.95) by Dean Koontz is tailor-made and right on target. Having written eight *New York Times* best-sellers in as many years, Koontz knows how to grab a reader's interest and keep him or her engrossed to the very last page.

Koontz paints a vivid portrait of the Stillwater family, the warmest, most lovable collection of people since Charles Dickens' Cratchit family in *A Christmas Carol*. Like the Cratchits, the Stillwaters bask in the glow of familial warmth, readying for the start of the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Marty Stillwater is a successful mystery writer, about to be the subject of a cover story for *People* magazine. His wife Paige is a caring child psychologist. Their two high-spirited, adorable daughters (10-year-old Charlotte and 7-year-old Emily) complete the image of the idyllic family residing comfortably and happily in Mission Viejo.

The family's favorite part of the day is story time. Paige makes popcorn and cocoa between hugs and kisses, while Marty spins stories for Charlotte and Emily. This particular tale is about Santa Claus's evil twin brother, told in verse reminiscent of the wicked humor of T. S. Eliot's poems about cats.

"Santa's twin—who is evil and mean—
stole the sleigh, will make the scene,
pretending to be his good brother.
Guard your beloved children, mother!
Down the chimney, into your home,
here comes that vile psychotic gnome!"

Sound scary? It should after all, this is a Dean Koontz novel.

Half a continent away, enter a deranged killer created and programmed by a shadowy network of people who tell him when to kill. The killer completes his assignments with finesse and even commits a few murders on his own, including those of 15 prostitutes. "Being present at a death is to share one of the most intimate experiences anyone will ever know in this world," the killer says chillingly.

Back in Mission Viejo, though, why does Marty suddenly become "haunted by a malevolent spirit," and why does dread settle within him "in the same manner as Poe's mysterious raven perching above a chamber door?"

Why does the killer arrive on Marty's doorstep, accusing him of stealing his life, his family and his profession, and demanding that he give it all back?

How is it the police think the bullet holes and blood all over the house are just a publicity stunt to sell more books? Why don't bullets stop the killer? Why is the Stillwater family on the run with the madman in incredibly close pursuit? But, most of all, why does the killer look like he could be Marty's twin?

Settle down with this book on some blustery, lonely night before you offer it to someone else as a gift. And check the locks on your doors and windows before you begin.

•

The spiritual and sensitive people on your list will appreciate Maya Angelou's ***Wouldn't Take Nothing For My Journey Now*** (Random House, $17). Her sixth published collection is a book full of wisdom. Angelou is best known as the poet who read "On the Pulse of Morning" at President Bill Clinton's inauguration last January and for her best-selling autobiography *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*. However, to truly appreciate this, her 12th book, you must know how she developed the insights she's crammed into this slim volume. Raised by her grandmother in a small town in Arkansas, Angelou became a single mother very young, and practically grew up with her son, which gave her a strong sense of family and the importance of spirit, strength, courage and virtue.

Her sense of the dramatic is a direct result of touring 22 countries as a cast member of the off-Broadway production of *Porgy and Bess*, on television in *Roots* (which earned Angelou an Emmy nomination), and dancing with Alvin Ailey. Add to that working as a journalist in Egypt and Ghana, producing miniseries', teaching (music, dance, writing and American studies), and at the request of Martin Luther King, Jr., serving as northern coordinator for the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Her distillation of all these experiences undoubtedly comes from a poet's heart. Caution: After reading this volume, give it to someone with a talent for sipping—110-proof prose should not be gulped.

•

One of Angelou's closest friends is Toni Morrison, whose books also

The word used most often to describe Morrison's work is "lyric."

make great gifts for people who haven't read them or who would like to reread them now that Morrison has won the 1993 Nobel Prize for literature. Morrison says she has filled in "huge silences in literature...silences about black girls, black women, contemporary stories." The Swedish Academy said: "She delves into the language itself, a language she wants to liberate from the fetters of race. And she addresses us with the luster of poetry." The word used most often to describe her work is "lyric," a quality which runs throughout ***Jazz*** (Knopf, $21), ***Beloved*** (Knopf, $27.50), and ***Song of Solomon*** (Plume, $10).

•

Have you any sports fans on your list? If so, pick them up a copy of ***Jim Murray, An Autobiography*** (Macmillan, $20), by the Pulitzer Prize-winning sports columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*. To describe Murray as a sportswriter is like mentioning Beethoven and the composer of "Chopsticks" in the same breath. Even people who don't like sports (or who are very selective about the sports they do like), enjoy his entertaining style of writing. He can tell you why women like basketball (and it's not "because women like to see men run around in their underwear," he writes) and he quotes Woody Hayes' approach to foreign policy as "Beat Michigan!" Some of his most pungent prose, though, is reserved for the cities where sports are played: Los Angeles is "underpoliced and oversexed," and New York City's only safe place "is Grant's Tomb. Which is to say Grant is safe, not you."

For the football fan on your list, Frank Gifford's anecdote-filled ***The Whole Ten Yards*** (Random House, $22), written with *Newsweek* columnist, Harry Waters, makes an ideal gift. Gifford says, "As far as I'm concerned, I'm a broadcaster. That's the hat I've worn for the last 30 years." Indeed *Monday Night Football* (the longest running prime-time series in television history, next to the *Ed Sullivan Show*) has provided Gifford with a spot at center stage since 1971. He claims his role in the Howard Cosell/Don Meredith/Gifford triumverate was billed by a critic as "the bland leading the blind."

Aside from broadcasting, however, Gifford has led a very interesting life. As the son of an itinerant oil-field worker, he lived in 47 towns before starting high school in Bakersfield, California, where he became a star football player. After graduation, Gifford attended the University of Southern California, later playing professionally with the NFL's New York Giants. During his 12 years in professional football, Gifford made All-Pro at three different positions, was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in 1977, and worked with such football greats as Tom Landry and Vince Lombardi. He's acted and performed stunts in movies with Tony Curtis and James Garner, and starred on stage with Don Meredith in "The Odd Couple." Gifford once declared, "If the theater ever needs me, I'm ready." And if all that wasn't enough, he's also married to morning-show hostess Kathie Lee Gifford, a story that in itself could fill a book.

Gifford writes, "It strains belief today, but when I broke into professional football in 1952, it was the ugly duckling of sports. Major-league baseball and college football owned the fans."

And speaking of baseball, ***The Era 1947-1957: When the Yankees, the Giants, and the Dodgers Ruled the World*** (Ticknor & Fields, $22.95) by Roger Kahn, is being hailed as one of the best books ever written about baseball, perhaps even surpassing Kahn's classic, *The Boys of Summer*.

•

Those interested in health are sure to enjoy ***The Heart of Healing*** (Turner Publishing, $24.95), the companion to a six-hour television series hosted by Jane Seymour that explores the body/mind connection and an assortment of psychological, spiritual and alternative techniques used to help battle illness. For those more interested in traditional medicine, Dr. Isadore Rosenfeld's ***The Best Treatment*** (Simon & Shuster, $21), published a couple of years ago is still a favorite of mine. Since my own doctor has the bedside manner of a shoemaker, I often turn to this book for advice.

•

Science-fiction buffs will want to reread Ray Bradbury's disturbing classic about censorship, ***Fahrenheit 451*** (Simon & Schuster, $21), which is celebrating its 40th anniversary. (In case you've forgotten, 451 degrees Fahrenheit is the temperature at which books burn.)

•

For lovers of mysteries and legal thrillers, you can't do better than ***Interest of Justice*** (Dutton, $21), a complex work by Orange County-based Nancy Taylor Rosenberg.

•

If you're an avid photography and art buff, consider the late actor Roddy McDowall's ***Double Exposure—Take Four*** (William Morrow, $65) which includes McDowall's photographs of prominent people in the arts, plus profiles written by the equally famous. Take a look, too, at Richard Avedon's ***An Autobiography*** (Random House, $125) which provides some starker contrasts. OC

The Dice and Roll

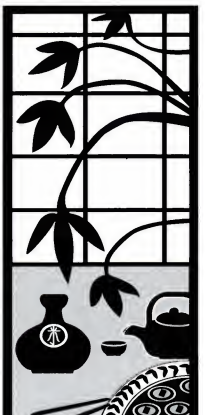
By Pete Johnson

My colleagues think very highly of Ichibiri, a low-key sushi and teppan house with two locations, one in San Clemente and one in Dana Point. So highly, in fact, that the Southern California Restaurant Writers gave the restaurants two gold awards last year. Knowing this, I naturally anticipated great things. I invited friends. I was excited. I wanted this to be a very Japanese experience, filled with exquisitely prepared bits of exceptional food, polished Japanese manners and, most important, the ritual of Japanese dining.

I got most of what I expected. The teppan and sushi in both locations was good, solid Japanese-style cuisine, but the manners from the wait staff were much more casual than I expected and the ritual seemed as much derived from our local beaches as it was based on ancient Japanese culture.

The San Clemente location is the better of two. Situated along the town's north shore just off El Camino Real, the restaurant is a very pleasant destination with a view of the ocean from the sushi bar and the patio. About half the restaurant is taken up by teppan tables, the flat, hot plates of steel on which chefs fling fork and knife about in deft display, like human cuisinarts. The other half of the floor is divided between the sushi bar and cocktail lounge.

The sushi crowd fills the bar early and keeps it open late—sushi requires that kind of ritual. The Japanese have a saying that goes something like this: "You drink the first saki, the second saki drinks the first, and the third drinks you." The same idea could apply to sushi. The view at the sushi bar becomes intoxicating as the chef prepares the fish and forms it into intricate little designs of



shape and color. You hunger over each morsel, anxious as much for the show as the pungent flavor. The sheer volume of what you can consume in such an anticipatory atmosphere hits home only after you receive the bill, since each piece is charged separately.

In one evening, it's very easy to begin with tuna and yellowtail, graduate to eel and squid and conclude with octopus, sea urchin and ikura. The chef's lively banter and jokes (which get bawdier as the evening wears on and the saki flows) make it even easier to ignore your budget. But in the end, it all seems well worth the investment—after all, dinner includes the show. (One chef elected to take his tips in saki, not an unusual practice, I'm told). Even if the thought of raw fish turns your stomach, you may still enjoy the ritual of ordering crab, vegetable or cucumber sushi in a roll, or simply eating the sweet sushi rice straight.

The teppan tables are a bit more sedate than the action at the sushi bar, but your dining experience can be just as much fun, depending on the size of the crowd. As many as eight can sit and enjoy a wonderful meal and a dazzling culinary show. The fare is simple by design: Beef, chicken, halibut, lobster, scallops and shrimp, as well as vegetables and rice, are all intended for the fryer, and the quality and freshness of ingredients cannot be hidden from patrons when cooking on a teppan grill. Although many of the dishes are available with sauces, the finished dish almost always turns out best unadorned.

It's obvious Ichibiri takes great care in selecting prime ingredients for the teppan grill. The filet mignon, New York strip and top sirloin steaks used in the teriyaki beef dishes, for instance, are all choice selections. The chicken appears to be all-white breast meat, and the halibut and scallops are tender and juicy. The only disappointment were the shrimp, which were very small and overly salty.

The side sauces—including a sweet, vinegary soy-based broth for the vegetables (mostly cabbage, onions and mushrooms) and seafood, and a snappy ginger sauce for the steak and chicken—were right on target. Teppan dinners are served with a generous portion of decently fried rice, but my request for steamed rice was refused. And while Ichibiri boasts an outstanding sesame and ginger dressing, it is wasted on a bed

MIKE MAYHEW/PHOTOMANIA

of pedestrian iceberg lettuce.

Ichibiri's teppan chefs are not as lively as their sushi counterparts, and the production lacks some of the flash displayed at some of the area's bigger teppan houses where chefs whirl and swirl their blades with amazing speed and sleight of hand. But fear not: They put on a blade-rattling good show.

Table service is aloof yet professional, although it can sometimes get very casual to the point of being careless, and the teppan chefs tend to be sloppy on the side. I suppose I'm spoiled: I've grown used to precision carving and dicing at the grill table.

But that may just be the general temper of these restaurants. Ichibiri seems to be less a Japanese restaurant than a great place at the beach that happens to serve sushi and teppan-grilled cuisine. The Monarch Beach location, especially, is a very casual affair, almost crude in its décor and layout. But even the more elegant San Clemente restaurant has relaxed the formal rituals associated with Japanese food by letting their hair down a little and lightening up on the manners. Maybe it's the beach crowd—the local businessmen in Hawaiian shirts and boat shoes, the surfers and the sun-worshippers—that has made Ichibiri a more relaxed place.

I certainly don't find Ichibiri's style offensive, just different from what I expected from a Japanese restaurant. The open atmosphere that focuses less on the food and more on fun seems to suit the place just fine. This attitude is also reflected in their pricing. Ichibiri has priced their teppan dinner plates and sushi a few dollars less than the competition, encouraging me to camp just a little longer at the sushi bar for one more saki and

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another bit of sea urchin over vinegared rice.

Ichibiri, 16 Monarch Bay Plaza, Dana Point, 661-1544; 1814 North El Camino Real, San Clemente, 361-0137. Both locations serve lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sunday through Friday; dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and until 10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Ichibiri accepts all major credit cards as well as reservations. Plenty of self-parking (San Clemente has a very small free lot, surrounded by metered city parking). Full bar. Casual dress and moderately priced ($30 to $75, dinner for two, not including wine and gratuity).

Hot From the Kitchen

Go to La Salsa for chef Eustaquio Kneeland's fresh and exciting interpretations of basic Mexican food. How this Mexico City native-turned-graduate of the California Culinary Academy came to La Salsa from places such as Cicada, Rebecca's, the Border Grill and Kaktus is somewhat of a mystery, but he has turned this particular location of the chain restaurant into one sizzling spot.

Overlook the plastic utensils and focus on things like their rotisserie chicken, available as a half, whole, or diced in delicious soft tacos. Try the *arrachera*, a generous cut of marinated bottom sirloin, grilled to order and served with a side of sweet black bean and corn relish, fire roasted onions and peppers, and organic black beans in a corn husk. Other menu winners include shrimp tacos with a sweet-tart, savory grapefruit salsa and chicken in citrus juice with achiote peppers.

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Splashes Restaurant



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Orange Coast uses the following symbols for the Dining Guide: AE—American Express, CB—Carte Blanche, D—Discover, DC—Diner's Club, MC—MasterCard and V—Visa. Single entrees are rated as inexpensive—under $10; moderate—$10 to $20; and expensive—$20 and up.

ANAHEIM

CHEF'S KITCHEN, *Disneyland Hotel, 1150 W. Cerritos Ave. 956-6406. Open 7-11:30 a.m. Sat-Sun., daily during summer and major holidays. Breakfast buffet "Disney Character Breakfast." Reservations for 8 or more. Casual. AE, DC, MC, V.*

GRANVILLE'S STEAK HOUSE, *Disney-land Hotel, 1150 W. Cerritos Av. 956-6402. Open 5:30-10 p.m. daily. Steaks, prime rib, Maine lobster, salmon filet. Casual. Expensive. Valet parking. AE, DC, MC, V.*

KEYAKI, *located at tha Pan Pacific Hotel 1717 S. West. St., 999-0990 (ext. 47). California-Japanese cuisina. Sushi bar, kappo counter, tatami room dining. Open daily from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Free valet parking. All major credit cards accepted.*

SHIPYARD INN, *Disneyland Hotel, 1150 W. Carritos Av. 956-6404. D 5-10 p.m. daily. Fresh seafood. Cocktails. Reservations suggested. Casual. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, DC, MC, V.*

BALBOA

AMELIA'S, *311 Marine Ava. 673-6580. L Mon-Sun 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., D 5-10 p.m. daily. Sat and Sun brunch 10 e.m.-3:30 p.m. Italian seafood, fresh fish, abalone stuffed crab, scampi, lobster thermadore. Rasarvations recommended. Casual to semidressy. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

BALBOA THAI CAFE, *209 1/2 Palm St. 675-0161. D 5-10 p.m. Thai cuisine. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, V.*

B.J.'S CHICAGO PIZZERIA, *106 Main St. 675-7560. Open 11:30-11 Sun-Th, 11:30-12 Fri-Sat. Pizza, spaghetti, lasagna, sandwiches. Casual. Inexpensive. AE, MC, V.*

RUBY'S, *No. 1 Balboa Pier. 675-RUBY. Open 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat; 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun-Thurs. Re-created 1940s dinar. Burgers, frias, shakas. Casual. Inexpensive.*

TALE OF THE WHALE, *400 Main St. 673-4633. Open Mon-Sat 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-10:30 p.m. American Cuisine and fresh seafood. Breakfast specialties include huevos rancheros. Lunch features salads, sandwiches and seafood. Fri.-Sat. entertainment. Casual to dressy. Reservations accaptad. All major credit cards accepted.*

BREA

CROCODILE CAFE, *975 E. Birch. 529-CAFE. Open 11-10 Mon-Thurs, 11-11 Fri-Sat. Burgers and gourmet pizzes. Inaxpensive. Casual. All major credit cards accepted.*

RENAISSANCE CAFE, *955 E. Birch St., Unit L, Brea Marketplace. 256-CAFE. 11-midnight daily. California cuisine. Happy hour, nightly entertainment. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

BUENA PARK

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *7926 Valley View at La Palma. Hamburgers, fries, shakes. Drive-thru. Inexpensive.*

MEDIEVAL TIMES DINNER & TOURNAMENT, *7662 Beach Blvd. 800-899-6600, 521-4740. Performances nightly, weekend matinees. Inexpensive. V, MC, DC.*

CORONA DEL MAR

CARMELO'S, *3520 E. Coast Hwy. 75-1922. Open Sun-Thurs 5:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Fina italian cuisine. Dover sole, pasta ossobuco, veal chops, scampi Carmelo. Entertainment nightly. Reservations accepted on weekends. Dressy. Moderate. AE, DC, MC, V.*

FIVE CROWNS, *3801 E. Coast Hwy. 760-0331. Open 5-12 Mon-Sat, 4-11:30 Sun. Sunday brunch 10:30-3. Established In 1965. Prime rib, roast duckling, rack of lamb, fresh fish. Reservations suggested. Semi-dressy. Moderate. All major credit cards.*

COSTA MESA

DIVA, *600 Anton Bl. 754-0600. L Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. D Sun-Thurs 5:30-midnight. Fri-Sat 5:30 p.m.-1 a.m. Cutting-edge California cuisine. Rare ahi towers on sweet corn and scallop, potato and mushroom strudal. Jazz on waakands. Casual. Modarata. Rasarvations accaptad. All major credit cards.*

EL TORITO GRILL, *633 Anton Blvd. 662-2672. Open 11:30-10 Mon-Thurs, 11:30-11 Fri-Sat. 10-10 Sun. Southwest Mexican cuisine, mesquite broiled food, fresh homemada tortillas. Happy hour 4-7 Mon-Fri. Rasarvations accapted. Casual. Inexpensiva. Valet parking available. AE, DC, MC, V.*

EMPORIO ARMANI EXPRESS, *3333 Bristol St. (in South Coast Plaza). 754-0300. Open Mon-Fri 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Italian cuisina. Homamada pastas, pizza, salads, chickan, seafood. Wina and beer only. Reservations not necessary. Casual. Moderate. V, MC, AE.*

GOLDEN TRUFFLE, *1767 Newport Bl. 645-9858. L Tues-Sat 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. D Tues-Sat 6-10 p.m. French-Caribbean cuisine. Jamaican jerk chicken salad, Dungeness crab spring rolls. Extensive selection of beer and wine. Reservations recommended. Fashionable dress. Moderate. AE, V, MC, CB.*

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *549 W. 19th St. at Newport. Hamburgers, fries, shakes.*

MANDARIN GOURMET, *1500 Adams Av. 540-1937. L 11:30-3 Mon-Fri; D 4:30-10 Mon-Th, 4:30-11 Fr. Open 11:30-11 Sat, 11:30-10 Sun. Cashew chicken, aromatic shrimp, Peking duck. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. AE, DC, CB, MC, V.*

RUBY'S CRYSTAL COURT, *3333 Bear St., Crystal Court, South Coast Plaza. 662-RUBY. Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun-Th, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat. Re-created 1940s diner. Burgers, fries, shakes, salads. Casual. Inexpensive. Major credit cards accepted.*

TRATTORIA SPIGA, *3333 Bear St., Crystal Court. 540-3365. Open Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Italian. Pizza, pasta, salads. Casual. Moderate. Reservations accepted. All major credit cards.*

ZORBA'S CUISINE OF GREECE, *580 Anton Blvd. (adjacent to the Performing Arts Center). 436-0141. Greek cuisine. Reservations suggested. All major credit cards.*

DANA POINT

ALEXANDER'S RESTAURANT, *24701 Del Prado. 661-6003. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon-Thurs, 11 a.m.-12 a.m. Fri. Champagne brunch Sat and Sun 9 a.m.-2 p.m., L 11 a.m.-5 p.m., D 5-10 p.m. Contemporary California cuisine. Live entertainment nightly. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

THE CAFE, *33533 Ritz-Carlton Drive, The Ritz-Carlton Hotal. 240-2000, ext. 5362. Open 6:30-11:30 daily. Sunday brunch 11-3. Casual. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.*

RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL DINING ROOM, *33533 Ritz-Carlton Drive. 240-2000. 6-9 p.m. Tues-Sat. 4-star French cuisine. Jacket required. Reservations recommended. Expensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

WATERCOLORS, *The Dana Point Resort, 25135 Park Lantern. 661-5000, ext. 57. Open 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs. 6:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri-Sat. Sunday brunch 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Contamporary American cuisina. Liva pop, swing and jazz music Fri and Sat night. Rasarvations accapted. Casual. Expensive. All major credit cards accapted.*

FOUNTAIN VALLEY

CHEVY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT, *18727 Brookhurst St. 963-3008. Sun-Thurs 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fajitas, tamales. Casual. Moderate. Reservations necessary for eight or more. V, MC.*

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FULLERTON

AURORA, *1341 S. Euclid. 738-0272. L 11:30-2 Mon-Fri; D 5-10 Mon-Th, 5-11 Fri-Sat. Continental Italian cuisine, wild game, fresh seafood and veal. Rated "Best Continental Restaurant," in Orange Coast magazine. Reservations accepted. Semi-casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

THE CELLAR, *305 N. Harbor Boulevard. 525-5682. Open Tue-Sat from 6 p.m. French and Continental cuisine. Reservations suggested. Dressy. Moderate to expensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

RUBY'S METRO DINER, *1301 Harbor Blvd. 871-RUBY. Fri-Sat 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun-Th 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Re-created 1940s diner. Burgers, fries, milk shakes, fountain treats. Casual. Inexpensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

GARDEN GROVE

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *9032 Trask at Magnolia. Burgers, shakes and fries. Drive thru. Inexpensive.*

LA FAYETTE, *12532 Garden Grove Bl. 537-5011. L 11:30-2 Mon-Fri; D 6-11 Mon-Sat, 5-10 Sun. Lamb, rabbit, bouillabaisse. Semi-casual. Moderately expensive. AE, MC, V.*

HUNTINGTON BEACH

CIELO MARE, *21100 Pacific Coast Hwy. 960-SURF. B 6:30-11 a.m.; L 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., D 5-11. Sunday brunch 11-3. Mediterranean cuisine. Happy hour 5-7 p.m. Casual. Moderate. Major credit cards.*

LOUISE'S TRATTORIA, *300 PCH. 960-0996. Mon-Thurs 11-10, Fri-Sat 11-11, Sun 10-10. Italian cuisine. Casual. Inexpensive. AE, D, MC, V.*

NICCOLE'S RISTORANTE, *520 Main St. 960-8091. Open daily 5-10 p.m. Regional Italian cuisine. Seafood, pastas, unique sauces, chicken and veal. Reservations recommended. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, DC, MC, V.*

PERO'S RESTAURANT, *2221 North Main Street. 960-7764. B Sun-Sat 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m., D Sat-Sun 5-10 p.m. Breakfast features homemade pancakes, syrup, butter, breads; Fresh pastas, homemade sauces, homemade pastries. Casual to nice. Moderate. Reservations accepted. AE, D, MC, V.*

IRVINE

BISTANGO, *19100 Von Karman Av. 752-5222. L 11:30-3 Mon-Fri; D 5-10:30 Mon-Fri, 5-midnight Sat-Sun. California Italian cuisine. Happy hour Mon-Fri 5-7 p.m.; Th champagne happy hour. Piano artist performs Tues. 7-11 p.m.; jazz trio Wed-Th 7-11 p.m.; Latin music Fr-Sat 8.-12 a.m. Moderate. Valet parking available. AE, DC, MC, V.*

BISTRO 201, *18201 Von Karman Av. 553-9201. L 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri, D 5:30-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs, 5:30-11 p.m. Fri-Sat. Contemporary California Bistro. Reservations recommended. Casual. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, MC, V.*

EL TORITO GRILL, *1910 Main St. 975-1220. L 11-3; D 3-10 Sun-Th, 3-11 Fri-Sat. Tex-Mex cuisine. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. Valet parking available. AE, MC, V.*

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN, *2957 Michelson Dr. 975-1585. Open 11-10 Mon-Thurs, 11-11 Fri-Sat, noon-9 Sun. Specializing in wood-fired, designer pizzas; pasta. Beer and wine. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, D, DC, V.*

CHEVY'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT, *4700 Barranca Parkway. 559-5808. Sun-Thurs 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sizzling fajitas, handmade tamales, fresh fish. Casual. Moderate. Reservations accepted for parties of eight or more. AE, MC, V.*

CHICAGO JOE'S, *1818 N. Main St. 261- JOES. Open daily 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Steak and seafood. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. AE, DC, MC, V.*

CHINATOWN RESTAURANT AND BAR, *4139 Campus Dr. 856-2211. L 11:30-3; D 3-10 Sun-Th, 3-11 Fri-Sat. Fine Chinese cuisine, Sizzling rice soup,*

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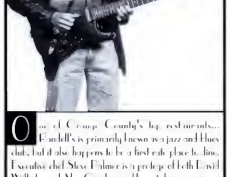
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pineapple duckling, Szechwan-style egg foo young, beef with broccoli, aromatic shrimp. Combination luncheon specials. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, V.

CIAO MEIN, *17900 Jamboree Blvd. (at the Hyatt Regency Irvine). 756-CIAO. L Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. D Mon-Sat 6-10 p.m. A daring blend of Pan-Asian and Italian cuisines. Reservations accepted. Fashionably casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

IL FORNAIO, *19051 Von Karman. 261-1444. Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Sat-Sun 5-11 p.m. Northern Italian cuisine. Specially baked bread. Fresh pasta, pizza, grilled meets. Casual dressy. Reservations recommended. Valet parking. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

McCORMICK & SCHMICK'S, *2000 Main Street. 756-0505. Open 11:30-11 daily. Seafood. Entertainment six nights a week, dancing at Mick's nightclub next door. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, MC, V.*

MEZZANINE AT THE TOWERS, *19800 MacArthur Blvd. #C-10. 724-1066. B 7:30-10:30 a.m. L 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Mon-Fri. Continental/California cuisine. Reservations accepted. AE, D, DC, MC, V.*

PREGO, *18420 Von Karman. 553-1333. Mon 11:30 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Tues-Th 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri 11:30 a.m.-midnight, Sat 5-midnight. Sun 5-10 p.m. Northern Italian cuisine. Homemade pastas, authantic Italian pizza, fresh fish, full bakery, Italian desserts. Reservations recommended. Casual. Moderete. Valet parking, AE, DC, MC, V.*

RUBY'S AQUA DINER, *4602 Barrance Pkwy., Woodbridge Village Shopping Cantar. 552-RUBY. Recreated 1940s diner. Burgers, fries, salads, fountein treats. Casual. Inexpensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

SWEET BASIL TRATTORIA, *17575 Hervard Ave. 752-3033. Open daily 11 a.m. Sun noon. Italian/Californian cuisine. Fusilli pesto, BBQ chicken pizze, chicken tequila cream with spinach fettuccine, pasta primavera, fesagna. "The Music of Italy" Wednesday nights. Casual. Moderate. V, MC, AE.*

TROCADERO, *4237 Campus Dr. 854-5599. Open Mon-Wed 11 a.m.-midnight; Th-Fri 11 a.m.-closing; Sat 4 p.m.-2 a.m.; Sun 4 p.m.-midnight. Live bands Th, Fri and Sat. Happy hour 3-6 p.m. Casual. Major credit cards.*

WATERS, *4615 Barranca Pkwy. 262-0864. 11:30-10 Mon-Sat, 5-10 Sun, Seafood and pastas. Reservations accepted. All major credit cards accepted.*

ZUNI GRILL, *3396 Barranca Pkwy. 262-0864. L Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. D daily 4-10 p.m. Sun brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Southwastern cuisina. Casual. Inexpensive. Major credit cards accepted.*

LAGUNA BEACH

BEN BROWN's, *31106 Coast Hwy. 499-2271. Open 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun-Thurs; 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Sat. Continental cuisine. Fresh seafood, steak, Piccatta, beef and shrimp Maxim's. Casual. Moderate. Reservations accepted. V, MC, AE.*

B.J.'S CHICAGO PIZZERIA, *280 S. Coast Hwy. 494-3802. Open 11-11 Sun-Thurs, 11-12 Fri-Sat. Chicago-style pizza, hot and cold sandwiches. Casual. Inexpensive. AE, MC, V.*

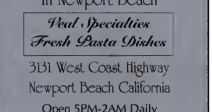
CEDAR CREEK INN, *384 Forest Ave. 497-8696. Open 11 a.m.-midnight daily. Oyster bar open to 11 p.m. Pastas, seafood, entertainment. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate.*

THE COTTAGE RESTAURANT, *308 N. Coast Hwy. 494-8980. B & L, 7-3 weekdays; 7-4 weekends, D 5-10. American cuisine, seafood, steaks. Moderate. Casual. Reservations accepted. Major credit cards accepted.*

FIVE FEET, *328 Glenneyre. 497-4955. L 11:30-2:30 Fri only. D 5-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs; 5-11 p.m. Fri-Sat. Contemporary Chinese cuisine. Reservations suggested. Casual. Moderate. Major credit cards.*

KACHINA, *222 Forest Ave. 497-5546. Sun-Thurs*

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DINING GUIDE

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LAS BRISAS, *361 Cliff Drive. 497-5434. B 8-11 e.m. Mon-Sat; L 11 a.m.-3:30 Mon-Sat; 5-10 Mon-Th; D 5-11 Fri and Sat; 4-10 Sun. Sunday brunch 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Mexican/ seafood. Full bar. Reservetions recommended. Valet parking. Casual. Inexpensive to moderete. All major credit cards accepted.*

RENAISSANCE CAFE, *234 Forest Ave., 497-JAVA. 7 a.m.-midnight daily. California cuisine. Happy hour, nightly entertainment. Moderate. Casual. All major credit cards accepted.*

ROYAL THAI CUISINE, *1750 Pacific Coast Highway. 494-8424. Open 11 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-10 p.m. Thai cuisine. Giant prawns with curry sauce, Crying Tiger Beef Grill with spicy seuce, peht Thei noodles. Brunch. Full bar. Patio and greenhouse dining. Reservations accepted. Casual. Moderate. Major credit cards.*

RUBY'S AUTO DINER, *30622 S. Coast Hwy. 497-RUBY. Open 6:30 a.m.-11p.m. Sun-Th. 6:30 a.m.-midnight Fri-Sat. Re-created 1940s diner. Burgers, fries, salads, fountain treats. Recorded swing music. Casual. Inexpensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

RUMARI BY THE SEA, *1826 S. Coast Hwy. 494-0400. Open Tues., Thurs., Sun., 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri. & Sat, 5:30 p.m.-10:30 p.m. Full bar. Italian cuisine. Casual/dressy. Moderate. Reservations accepted. All major credit cards accepted.*

SPLASHES RESTAURANT & BAR, *Surf & Send Hotel, 1555 S. Coast Hwy. 497-4477, ext 550. Open 7 days a week: B 7-11 a.m. Mon-Fri, 7-11:30 a.m. Sat & Sun.; L 11:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon-Fri, noon-4:30 p.m. Sat & Sun; D 5-10 p.m. Sun-Th, 5-11 p.m. Fri and Sat. Beachside bar 11 a.m.-midnight. Sun-Th, 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Fri-Sat. Con-temporary Mediterranean cuisine. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

TORTILLA FLATS, *1740 S. Coast Hwy. 494-6588. L 11:30-4, D Mon-Thurs 4-10, D 4-11. Mexican cuisine, Taco Tuesday. Sunday brunch. Inexpensive. Casual. Reservations accepted. Valet parking. AE, MC, V.*

TOWERS RESTAURANT, *Surf & Sand Hotel, 1555 S. Coast Hwy. 497-4477, ext. 291. D 5:30-10 Sun-Th; 5:30-11 Fri-Sat. Elegant French cuisine with Northern Italian influences and a beautiful ocean view. Piano bar 8 p.m.-midnight Fri & Set. Formel. Expensive. Reservations. Major credit cards.*

LA HABRA

PORTOFINO RISTORANTE ITALIANO, *651 W. Whittier Blvd. 680-3311, 310-690-1765. L 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon-Fri, D 5-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs, 5-11 p.m. Fri-Sat. Italian cuisine. Inexpensive to moderate. Reservetions recommended. Major credit cards.*

LAGUNA NIGUEL

CHINA MOON, *30001 Town Center Dr., 249-6868. Mandarin/Szechwan cuisine. Moderate. Casual. Major credit cards.*

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *28782 Camino Capistrano. Hamburgers, fries, shakes. Drive thru. Inexpensive.*

MIJOURI SUSHI BUNE, *30251 F Golden Lantern Street. 363-8840. L Mon-Fri 12-2:30 p.m., D Mon-Sat 5-10 p.m., Sun 5-9 p.m. Japanese. Revolving sushi bar. Casual. Moderate. Reservations accepted. MC, V.*

LAKE FOREST

LA ZORRITA, *24412 Rockfield Blvd. 855-4651. L Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. D 5-9 p.m. L Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., D 5-9 p.m. Authentic Southern Mexicen cuisine. Specialties include cerne asada, mole, pollo almendrado end homemade desserts. Casual. Moderate. Credit cards not accepted.*

LOS ALAMITOS

THE ORIGINAL FISH CO., *11061 Los Alamitos Blvd*

at Katella. 310-594-4553. Open 11-10 Sun-Thurs, 11-11 Fri-Sat. Award-winning seefood, clem chowder, homemade saled dressings and hot sourdough bread served in Victorian surroundings. Casuel. Moderate. AE, DC, MC, V.

MISSION VIEJO

LA FERME RESTAURANT, *28451 Marguerite Pkwy. (in Heritage Square). 364-6664. L 11:30-2:30 Mon-Fri; D 5:30-10 nightly.Fresh daily specials. Veal, seafood, escargot, frog legs. Expended menu featuring more affordable entrees and a la carte items. Extensive wine list. Reservetions recommended. AE, MC, V.*

RUBY'S ON THE LAKE, *27762 Vista del Lago. 770-RUBY. Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Mon-Th, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun. Re-created 1940s diner. Recorded swing music. Reservetions not required. Casual. Inexpensive.*

TONY'S SEA LANDING, *26032 Marguerite Pkwy. 582-8844. Open daily, Mon-Fri at 11:30, Sat-Sun 4 p.m. Seafood, chicken, pasta, prime rib. Semi-casual. Reservations are accepted. Moderate. AE, MC, V.*

TORTILLA FLATS, *27792 Vista del Lago. 830-9980. L 11:30-4, D Mon-Thurs 4-10, D Fri-Sat 4-11. Mexican cuisine. Taco Tuesday. Sunday brunch. Inexpensive. Casual. Reservations accepted. AE, MC, V.*

NEWPORT BEACH

ANTOINE, *Le Mendien Hotel, 4500 MacArthur Bl. 476-2001. D 6-10 Tue-Sat. Exquisite French dining. Winner of California Restaurant Writers 1988 Circle of Fame and Four Star Award. Reservations required. Formal. Expensive. AE, DC, D, MC, V.*

BRAZILIAN TROPICAL CAFE, *401 Newport Center Dr., Atrium Ct. 720-1522. Open Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Gourmet healthy Brazilian cuisine. Casual. Inexpensive. No credit cards. Personal checks accepted.*

BOB BURNS RESTAURANT, *81 Fashion Island. 644-2030. Open Mon-Sat. L. 11:30 a. m.-5 p.m. D 5-11 p.m. Sunday chempegne brunch 11-3. American/Continental. Crab cakes, oysters, fresh seafood, roast duckling, prime rib, filet mignon. Live piano music. Reservations suggested. Casual to semi-dressy. Moderate. Valet parking. AE, MC, V.*

CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN, *1151 Newport Center Drive. 759-5543. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs. 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri & Sat. Designer pizzes, pasta. Beer and wine. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, D, DC, V.*

THE CANNERY, *3010 Lafayette Ave. 675-5777. L 11:30-3 Mon-Fri; D 5-10 Mon-Sat. Sunday brunch 10-2:30; D 4:30-9 Sun. Fine seafood and Continental cuisine. Reservations eccepted. Casual. Moderate. AE,MC,V.*

CANO'S WATERFRONT, *2241 W. Coast Hwy. 631-1381. L Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. D Sun-Thurs 5-10 p.m. Fri 5-11 p.m. Sat 6-11 p.m. Sun brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Contemporary International seafood with a variety of meat and poultry. Live entertainment Wed-Sat. Casual to dressy. Moderate. Reservations accepted. AE, V, MC, DC.*

CHANTECLAIR, *18912 MacArthur Bl. 752-8001. L 11:30-2:30 Mon-Fri; D 6-10:30 Mon-Sat; 5-10:30 Sun. Sunday brunch 10:30-2:30. Fine French cuisine. Jacket required. Expensive. AE, DC, MC, V.*

THE CHEESECAKE FACTORY, *1141 Newport Center Dr. 720-8333. Mon-Thurs 11:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-12:30 a.m. Sun 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Appetizers, oyster bar, pizza, salads, sandwiches, steak, seafood, cheesecake. Sundey brunch. Casual. Moderate. Major credit cards accepted.*

DAILY GRILL, *957 Newport Center Dr., Fashion Island. 644-2223. Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon-Th; 11 a.m.-midnight Fri.; 9 a.m.-midnight Sat; 9 a.m.-10 p.m.Sun. Set end Sun brunch 9 a.m.-3 p.m. American cuisine. Grilled meets and fish, chicken pot pie. Full ber. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, V.*

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EL TORITO GRILL, *951 Newport Center Drive. 640-2875. L 11:30-2:30 Mon-Fri; D 6-closing Mon-Th; D 5:30-closing Fri; D 5-closing Sat-Sun. Sunday brunch 10-2. Southwest Mexican cuisine, fresh homemade tortillas. Casual. Inexpensive. Valet parking available. AE, DC, MC, V.*

HARD ROCK CAFE, *451 Newport Center Dr., Fashion Island. 640-6844. Open Mon-Thurs 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Sun noon-11 p.m. Grilled burgers, fries, shakes, salads, fresh fish, desserts. Casual. Inexpensive. Major credit cards accepted.*

JOHNNY ROCKETS, *401 Newport Center Dr., Atrium Ct. 644-8681, Open Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Fifties-style malt shop. Hamburgers, fries, malts and shakes. Casual. Inexpensive.*

THE RED ONION, *2406 Newport Boulevard. 675-2244. L 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon-Sat. D 4-10 Sun-Thurs, 4-11 Fri-Sat. Sunday brunch 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Mexican food, fresh fish and steak. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC, V.*

RE'NATO, *2304 W. Oceanfront. 673-8058. L 11:30-2 Tue-Fri, D 5:30-10 Tue-Sun. Closed Mon. Fine Italian cuisine. Valet parking. Reservations accepted. Semi-casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

ROYAL THAI CUISINE, *4001 W. Coast Highway, 645-THAI. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. & 5-10 p.m. Thai cusine. Giant prawns with curry sauce, Crying Tiger Beef Grill. Brunch. Full bar. Reservations are accepted. Valet parking. Casual. Moderate. Major credit cards accepted.*

RUBY'S JAGUAR DINER, *3000 W. Coast Highway, Newport Beach. 722-4066 (at Newport Imports). Open daily 7 a.m.-9 p.m. English-type fare. Burgers, sandwiches, fries, soups & salads. Casual. Inexpensive. MC,V.*

SAPORI RISTORANTE, *1080 Bayside Dr., 644-4220. Open L 11:30-2:30 Mon-Fri, D 5-10 Sun-Th, 5-11 Fri-Sat. Italian cuisine. Fresh pasta. Chicken, beef, seafood, veal. Gourmet pizza. California and Italian wine. Full bar. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards.*

TUTTO MARE, *545 Newport Center Dr. 640-6333. Open M-Th 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m., Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-12 a.m., Sun 5-10 p.m. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

VILLA NOVA RESTAURANT, *3131 W. Coast Highway. 642-7880. Open M-Sat 5 p.m.-2 a.m., full menu served S-Th until midnight, Sun 4 p.m.-2 a.m., Fri and Sat until 1 a.m. Italian cuisine with a view of Newport Bay. Moderate. Casual dressy. Reservations are recommended. All major credit cards accepted.*

21 OCEANFRONT, *2100 W. Oceanfront. 673-2100. Fresh fish flown in from around the world, pasta, poultry, rack of lamb. Piano bar. Reservations accepted. Valet parking. Wine cellar for parties up to 45. Moderate to expensive. All major credit cards accepted.*

ORANGE

LA BRASSERIE, *202 S. Main St. 978-6161. L Mon-Fri 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. D Mon-Sat 5-10 p.m. French cuisine. Reservations imperative. Moderate to expensive. AE, MC, V.*

ORANGE HILL RESTAURANT, *6410 E. Chapman Ave. 997-2910. L Tues-Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m. D from 5 p.m. Sun brunch 9 a.m.-3 p.m. American cuisine. Full bar. Banquet facilities. Reservations recommended. Dressy. Moderate. MC, V, D, AE, DC.*

PLACENTIA

SOPHIA'S, *1390 N. Kraemer. 528-2021. Open 11-9 Mon-Thurs; 11-9:30 Fri-Sat. Greek food, catering. Reservations not required. Casual.*

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *825 W. Chapman at Placentia Blvd. Drive thru. Inexpensive.*

SAN CLEMENTE

THE TROPICANA GRILL, *610 Avenida Victoria. 498-TROP. Open Mon-Sat 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun 8 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun brunch 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Fresh fish and pasta dishes. Casual. Moderate. AE, MC,V, D.*

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO

B.J.'S CHICAGO PIZZERIA, *31781 Camino Capistrano #210. 489-9771. Open Sun-Thurs 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight. Authentic, Chicago-style pizza, spaghetti, lasagna. Casual. Inexpensive. AE, MC, V.*

L'HIRONDELLE FRENCH AND BELGIAN CUISINE, *31631 Camino Capistrano (across from Mission SJC). 661-0425. D 5-10 Tues-Sun. Sunday brunch 11-2. Early dinners 5-6:30 except Fri, Sat and holidays. Belgian dishes, sweetbreads, roast duck, rabbit. Walter Gesper chef/owner. Reservations suggested. All major credit cards accepted.*

RUBY'S SUPER CHIEF, *31781 Camino Capistrano #301. 496-RUBY. Open 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun-Thurs, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat. Re-created 1940s diner. Casual. Inexpensive.*

SANTA ANA

ANTONELLO RISTORANTE, *South Coast Plaze Village, 3800 S. Plaza Dr. 751-7153. 11:30-2 Mon-Fri; D 6-11 Fri-Sat. Northern Italian cuisine, pastas, veal, fish. Semi-formal. Moderate. MC,V.*

B.J.'S CHICAGO PIZZERIA, *2430 S. Bristol, 557-5950. Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Mon-Thurs; 11-midnight Fri-Sat; 11:30-10 Sun. Chicago-style pizza, innovative peste dishes, hot and cold sandwiches. Casual. Inexpensive. AE, MC, V.*

CRAZY HORSE STEAK HOUSE, *1580 Brookhollow Dr. 549-1512. L 11-3 Mon-Fri; D 5-10 Mon-Th, 5-11 Fri-Sat, 4-9:30 Sun. Prime rib, steaks and seafood. Concerts on Mondays, country music all other nights. Casual. Moderate. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.*

IN-N-OUT BURGERS, *815 N. Bristol. Hamburgers, fries, shakes. Drive thru. Inexpensive.*

PLANET HOLLYWOOD, *South Coast Plaza Village, 1641 W. Sunflower Ave. 434-7827. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m. Burgers, pizzas, grilled items, salads. Full bar. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

RANDELL'S, *3 Hutton Centre Dr. 556-7700. L 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon-Fri. D 5 p.m.-midnight. Live jazz every night. Italian/Creole cuisine. Casual. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

ROXBURY SOUTH, *2 Hutton Centra. 662-0880. Dining room 7-10 p.m., Fri-Sat until 11 p.m. The club 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. Eclectic American menu; late-night appetizers. Live entertainment. Valet parking. Moderate. All major credit cards accepted.*

TOPAZ CAFE, *2002 Main St., at Bowers Museum. 835-2002. L Tues-Sat 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Tea and appetizers 4-7 p.m. Californie-style menu. Casual. Inexpensive.*

SEAL BEACH

RUBY'S, *Seal Beach Municipal Pier. 310-431-RUBY. Open 7 a.m-9 p.m. Mon-Th, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Sun. Re-created 1940s diner. Casual. Inexpensive.*

TUSTIN

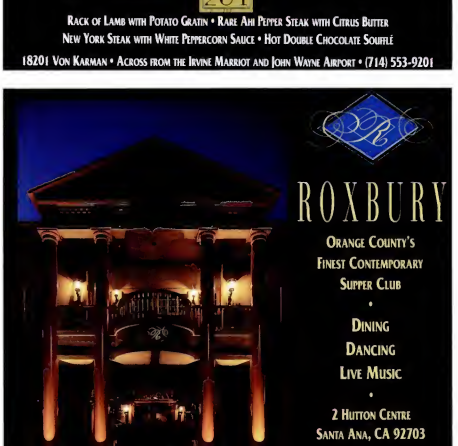
THE COFFEE GRINDER, *17350 E. 17th St. 838-0960. Mon-Thurs 6 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri til 11 p.m. Sat 8 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m. Cappuccino, pastries, sandwiches. Live entertainment on weekends. Casual. Inexpensive.*

PIZZA CUCINA, *1106 Irvine Blvd. 669-1599. 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun-Thurs, 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri-Sat. Gourmet pizza, pastas, saven-grain crusts, low-fet cheeses. Checks accepted. Free delivery in area. D, MC, V.*

RUBY'S, *13102 Tustin Ave. 838-7829. Sun-Thurs 7 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri-Sat 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Re-created 1940s diner. Burgers, shakes. Casual. Inexpensive. Major credit cards.*

SAPORI TRATTORIA, *2991 El Camino Real. 731-7480. Sun-Thurs 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fri and Sat 11 a.m.-midnight. Italian cuisine. Moderate. Major credit cards accepted.*





Signature

By Gloria Zigner



▼ **Randy Sue Morrison Baird** may be one of the luckiest women around. Married to internist Bob Baird, she runs a successful family-law practice and now she's a mommy to baby daughter Adriana. So there they all were at the opening of Tourneau, the country's largest retailer of fine Swiss watches—and she wins the evening's prize—a beautiful watch. It's great when the good guys win!





▼ **Sleek and streamlined.** That describes Design Director John Loring and Vice President Jo Ellen Qualls of Tiffany & Co. They recently introduced their new stainless-steel line, *Streamerica* at Tiffany's South Coast Plaza location. Now you know what to buy the people who have everything. But they probably don't have it in steel—or wrapped in Tiffany's signature blue box.



◀ **Hal and Sharon Woods, Christy Castro, Susie and Mitch Mitchell, and Elaine and Jim Roorda** sampled the fare of 25 chefs and 14 vintners at the 8th annual Great Chefs of Orange County. From the "They Thought of Everything" department: Tucked in guests' cars as they left were Four Seasons' chocolate truffles, two goblets and water from Evian, and a toothbrush—a gift from dentist Donald Brown.

▼ **Tourneau's neighbor** in South Coast Plaza, celebrity hairstylist, José Eber, stopped by the watch emporium's opening that benefited Opera Pacific and the Orange County Philharmonic Society. When Eber and Neil Letham, partner in Eber's local salon, were spotted, rumors rumbled through the crowd that Eber was there to buy the million-dollar diamond watch that was the highlight of the collection on display for the event. He said he wasn't. Speaking of Eber, isn't it interesting that a hairdresser would choose a hat as his trademark? As the song says, "You gotta have a gimmick."

▶ **Ferie Bailey and Dr. Boris Gurevich** swing out at the Opera Pacific Pre-Opera Ball singles night at the Fred Astaire Dance Studio. They don't look as though they needed the lessons.



▲ **At the time art consultant Chelsey Cutter** was told she needed a double mastectomy, she was young, broke and had no insurance. Her plight so touched Dr. Fredrick Grasier, an eminent plastic surgeon, that he offered to do her breast reconstruction at no cost—if she would promise to "go out and make a difference in the world." She has. Cutter orchestrated the American Cancer Society's (ACS) Canvases Created For the Cure holiday cards project, recruiting 25 internationally renowned artists who donated canvases for reproduction on the cards. What's more, 100 percent of the proceeds from the cards go to ACS.





▲ **Intermission at the ladies' room.** When will the architects ever learn?

▼ **The "Charity Event With The Most Beautiful Table Settings of The Year"** award goes to Galleri Orrefors Kosta Boda. Store manager Lynn Walker arranged the Art In Dining dinner of wild game at Gustav Anders. The benefit proved a success, raising $10,000 for the Laguna Art Museum. Internationally acclaimed Swedish glass artist Kjell Engman, whose works have been exhibited in museums throughout the world, was the evening's guest of honor.



▼ **Who are these lawyers** and why are they acting like that? It's Franz "Garth" Miller and John "Wayne" Gastellum who kicked off the evening for the Orange County Bar Foundation's fashion show at Nordstrom. The show helped raise money for Shortstop, the innovative and very successful bilingual juvenile crime diversion program.





WELCOME HOME

Claire Trevor Bren, from New York City; Rita (Dickey) and Dan Lamkin from St. Croix and Carolyn and Maury DeWald from Los Angeles.

▼ **At OCPAC's Center of Fashion,** interior designer Karen Elliot modeled; KNBC's Vikki Vargas watched. Vargas' four-month-old daughter Chandler Catarina del Nason stayed home with daddy Mike, so they missed seeing the fabulous production numbers and the beautiful models who showed off clothes that made one either **wish** for, **wonder** about or **wail!**



▼ **The family who models together…** Here are attorney Pat Ryan, daughter Courtney and wife Judge Judy Ryan (ret.) just before they hit the runway for Shortstop. Judy Ryan, president-elect of the Orange County Bar Foundation, was recently honored, along with The Irvine Co.'s Peter Zenghauser, with the Anti-Defamation League's 1993 Jurisprudence Award. She truly deserves "The Honorable" before her name.

Members and guests of The International Visitors and Protocol Foundation were buzzing about the delicious fruit-flavored vodka at the Zakuski Party at Dante's. The gathering followed a concert by the St. Petersburg Philharmonic at OCPAC. Dante's latest owner, Sylvain Touati, attracts many fans with his Russian fare.



▲ **Dona and Ken Grubs** (he's editorial page director at *The Register*) joined the crowd at the post-symphony dinner. Always ready with an informed opinion, world-traveler Ken gave the thumbs-up to the chicken kiev.



▲ **Beautiful music, delicious food** and good friends. Dr. Hansel Benvenuti and Martha Benvenuti having a wonderful time.



▶ **Eligible** bachelor, funny, wonderful writer knows Minsk from Pinsk—Jerry Kobrin.



◀ **Real-estate dynamo, Barbara Aune:** She and José Eber have something in common, but she likes more variety.

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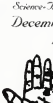
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SPECIAL EVENTS

LA POSADA AND TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY, December 3. The Mayor of San Juan Capistrano begins the tree lighting ceremony, followed by entertainment at the Mission and a living nativity scene at the El Camino Real Playhouse. Ortega Highway and El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano. 493-5911.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY WASSAIL, December 3-4. Chapman University presents its annual holiday celebration which includes wassail, dinner and a holiday concert featuring the Chapman Chamber Orchestra, the University Choir, and the University Singers. Bertea Hall, 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. For more information, call 997-6812.

CANDY CANE BALL, December 4. The 45th annual event features dinner, dancing, auctions, and entertainment. Westin South Coast Plaza, 6863 Anton Boulevard, Costa Mesa. 759-9207.

"FESTIVAL OF TREES" CHRISTMAS CAROL BALL, December 4. The black-tie benefit includes entertainment and a Christmas tree decorating competition and judging. Newport Beach Marriott Hotel, 900 Newport Center Drive, Newport Beach. 574-7208

WINTER FANTASY, through **December 5.** More than 150 artists showcase handmade art work and Christmas items. Entertainment and seasonal foods and drinks are also available. Sawdust Festival, 935 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach. 494-3030.

YULETIDE PAGEANT, December 10-12. A narrated presentation of 12 "living holiday greeting cards," accompanied by a chorus of carols. Costa Mesa Civic Playhouse, 661 Hamilton Avenue, Costa Mesa. For more information, call 650-5289.

YULETIDE FANTASY, December 12. This Christmas feast, presented by Opera Pacific, also features carols and a visit from Santa Claus. Center Club, 650 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 546-7372.

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM. Through **December 24,** the Christmas Crafts Festival. Holiday music, shopping and entertainment throughout the amusement park and Knott's California MarketPlace. 8039 Beach Boulevard, Buena Park. 827-1776.

ACTIVITIES

THE FACTORY READINGS, December 6. Featured poets are followed by an open reading. Casa Palma restaurant, 122 E. 17th Street, Santa Ana. 564-6526.

POETRY AT ALTA, December 8. Poets and musicians precede an open reading. Alta Coffee House, 506 31st Street, Newport Beach. 564-6526.

STEEL AND IVY: POETRY AT CHAPMAN, December 18. A poetry reading followed by an open discussion and refreshments. Chapman University, Argyros Forum, Room 208, 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. 997-6519.

FOR CHILDREN

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM AT LA HABRA. Through **January 1, 1994,** "Field Week," an exhibition exploring the facts, legends and lore of the Old West. **Tuesdays** through **Thursdays** until **January 1, 1994,** "Mrs. Pocket's Storytime" shares classic stories with children. 301 S. Euclid Street, La Habra. 310-905-9793.

DISNEYLAND HOTEL. Through **January 2, 1994,** "A Disney Family Christmas," featuring holiday entertainment and a Christmas village. 1150 W. Cerritos Avenue, Anaheim. 778-6600.

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE. December 1-5, "A Special Christmas Show for Kids," features skits and holiday stories read aloud. Drama Lab Studio, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 432-5880.

WESTMINSTER CULTURAL ARTS CENTER. December 3-12, *The Dickens Christmas Carol Show,* presented by the Orange County Children's Theatre. 7571 Westminster Boulevard, Westminster. For more information, call 502-2244.

OAK CANYON NATURE CENTER. December 11, Holiday Nature Crafts Workshop. Two sessions offer children ages 6-10 a chance to make holiday crafts. 1600 E. Walnut Canyon Road, Anaheim Hills. 998-8380.

CABRILLO CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CHILDREN'S SHOW, December 10-19. "Charles Dickens" reads *A Christmas Carol.* Cabrillo Playhouse, 202 Avenida Cabrillo, San Clemente. 492-0465.

SOUTH COAST REPERTORY. December 11-19, "East of the Sun & West of the Moon," a fairy tale about a poor family, a prince in disguise, and a wicked troll queen. Second Stage, 655 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa. 957-4033.

DISCOVERY SCIENCE CENTER LAUNCH PAD. December 28-29, The Lizard Wizard offers kids a closer look at the reptile, amphibian and arachnid kingdoms. Crystal Court, 3333 Bear Street, Costa Mesa. 546-2061.

MUSIC

ROBERT MONDAVI WINE & FOOD CENTER. December 2, "Christmas Concert," featuring traditional Renaissance carols. 1570 Scenic Avenue, Costa Mesa. 979-4510.

FULLERTON COLLEGE. December 3, the Concert Choir. **December 4,** the Master Chorale. **December 10-12,** *The Nutcracker* featuring the Nouveau Chamber Ballet. **December 14,** "Celebration 1993," performed by the Community Band. Campus Theater, 321 E. Chapman Avenue, Fullerton. 871-8101.

RENAISSANCE CAFE—BREA. December 4, Wind and String, a light jazz duo. **December 10,** Paul Bernadou, performing acoustic rock. **December 17,** the Woodbys, a three-piece wood ensemble. 955 E. Birch, Brea MarketPlace, Brea. 256-CAFE.

GOLDEN WEST COLLEGE. December 4, "A Renaissance Christmas," performed by the GWC Chamber Singers dressed in authentic costumes and accompanied by period instruments. **December 16-19,** "Many Moods of Christmas," performed by the GWC Symphonic Band. 15744 Golden West Street, Huntington Beach. 895-8378.

ORANGE COAST COLLEGE. December 4, the Gene Harris Jazz Quartet. **December 5,** the OCC Symphony Orchestra. **December 11,** "Holiday Concert," performed by the OCC Choir. Robert B. Moore Theatre, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 432-5880.

CURTIS THEATRE. December 4, "Holiday Celebration," presented by the Brea City Orchestra. Curtis Theatre, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea. 990-7722.

SADDLEBACK COLLEGE. December 4-5, "A Feast of Lights," featuring the Saddleback Symphony Orchestra and Master Chorale. **December 11,** Saddleback Voices, a vocal jazz ensemble. McKinney Theatre, 28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo. 582-4655.

RANDELL'S. December 4, saxophonist Kenny Goldberg. **December 31,** Randell's 2nd Annual New Year's Eve Gala, featuring music by Itzafunktheng! and the comedy of Gonzo Raymond. 3 Hutton Centre Drive, Santa Ana. 556-7700.

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY. December 5, the Orange County Youth Symphony Orchestra, Chapman Auditorium. **December 10,** Early Music Concert, featuring music from the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, Chapman University Chapel. **December 12,** the Orange County Junior Youth Symphony Orchestra, Chapman Auditorium. 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. 997-6812.

CRICKET HORSE SALOON. December 6, Michael Martin Murphy Cowboy Christmas Ball. **December 13,** Asleep at the Wheel. **December 20-21,** Gary Morris Christmas Show. 1580 Brookhollow Drive, Santa Ana. 496-8600.

RENAISSANCE CAFE—LAGUNA BEACH. December 9, JiDaDo, a jazz vocal trio. **December 14,** classical guitarist Greg Coleman. **December 18,** contemporary flamenco guitarists Bruce Wall and Ernie Angullo. 234 Forest Avenue, Laguna Beach. 497-5282.

RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE. December 10,

"Holiday Choral Celebration," featuring RSC's California Master Chorale and Concert Chorale. Phillips Hall Theatre, 1530 W. 17th Street, Santa Ana. 564-5661.

Carmelo's. Sundays through **Thursdays,** saxophonist Jeff Gonzales. 3520 E. Coast Highway, Corona del Mar. 675-1922.

THEATER

Way Off Broadway Playhouse. Through **December 18,** *Greetings,* Tom Dudzik's comedy about a family shown the true spirit of Christmas. 1058 E. 1st Street, Santa Ana. 547-8997.

Garden Grove Community Theatre. Through **December 18,** *Company,* Stephen Sondheim's musical observing various couples attending a dinner party. Eastgate Park, 12001 St. Mark Street, Garden Grove. 897-5122.

Fullerton College. Through **December 3,** *Crimes of the Heart,* Beth Henley's comedy about three Southern sisters. Through **December 5,** *Scapino,* a burlesque comedy set in modern Italy in which two young men are in love with the same girl. Bronwyn Dodson Theatre, 321 E. Chapman Avenue, Fullerton. 871-8101.

Newport Theater Arts Center. Through **December 19,** *Murder in Morocco,* an original musical comedy involving four Americans amid spies and gamblers in 1940s Casablanca. 2501 Cliff Drive, Newport Beach. 631-0288.

Yorba Linda Civic Light Opera. Through **December 19,** *Scrooge,* a musical based on *A Christmas Carol.* Yorba Linda Forum Theater, 4175 Fairmont Boulevard, Yorba Linda. 779-1932.

Elizabeth Howard's Curtain Call Dinner Theatre. Through **January 30, 1994,** *Hello Dolly,* the musical comedy about a matchmaker who sets her sights on a wealthy merchant. 690 El Camino Real, Tustin. 838-1540.

Chapman University. December 1-5, student directed one-act plays, Argyros Forum. **December 11,** "Opera Scenes," Chapman Auditorium. **December 16-22,** "Shakespearean Christmas: A Midwinter Night's Dream," a Christmas anthology presented by Shakespeare Orange County. Waltmar Theatre. 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. 997-6812.

Orange Coast College. December 1-5, the Winter One-Act Play Festival. **December 10-18,** *Wild Oats,* a western comedy. Drama Lab Studio. **December 18-19,** *World in Motion,* featuring an international cast, vocals and choreography, Robert B. Moore, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 432-5880.

Saddleback College. December 2-19, "Christmas With Sal & Amanda Gecko," a cabaret show featuring two lounge lizards. Studio Theatre, 28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo. 582-4656.

Cal State Fullerton. December 3-12, *House of Blue Leaves,* a comedy about a song writer and his crazy household. Recital Hall. 800 N. State College Boulevard, Fullerton. 773-2434.

Golden West College. December 3-12, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,* an Andrew Lloyd Webber musical based on a bible story, Community Theater. **December 10-19,** "Little Women at Christmas," an adaptation of the novel *Little Women,* Actor's Playbox Theater. 15744 Golden West Street, Huntington Beach. 895-8378.

Brea Theatre League. December 9-18, *The Homecoming,* a Christmas story set in Virginia during the Great Depression. Curtis Theatre, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea. 990-7722.

La Habra Depot Theatre. December 10-19, *Oliver!* 311 S. Euclid Street, La Habra. 310-905-9708 or 310-691-8900.

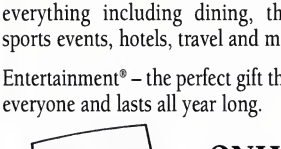
South Orange County Community Theatre. December 11-19, "A Child's Christmas in Whales," a Reader's Theatre production. Camino Real Playhouse, 31776 El Camino Real, San Juan Capistrano. For more information, call 489-8062.

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DANCE

Rancho Santiago College. December 3-5, Faculty Dance Concert. Phillips Hall Theatre, 1530 W. 17th Street, Santa Ana. 564-5661.

Chapman University. December 9-12, the Christmas Dance Show. Waltmer Theatre, 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. 997-6812.

Orange Coast College. December 12, "Navidad Flamenca." Robert B. Moore Theatre, 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 432-5880.

Saddleback College. December 16-19, *The Nutcracker,* performed by Coest Ballet Theatre. 28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo. 582-4924.

Laguna Playhouse. December 16-23, *The Nutcracker,* performed by Ballet Pacifica. 606 Laguna Canyon Road, Laguna Beach. 497-5900.

Golden West College. December 20-24, *The Nutcracker,* the classic Christmas story of Clara and her magical nutcracker prince. Community Theater, 15744 Golden West Street, Huntington Beach. For more information, call 895-8378.

COMEDY

The Improv—Irvine. Through **December 5,** Pet Hazell. **December 7-12,** Sue Murphy. **December 14-19,** Jack Cohen. **December 20-23,** Tom McTigue. 4255 Campus Drive, Suite 138, Irvine. 854-5455.

The Improv—Brea. Through **December 5,** Ron Pearson. **December 6,** Dom Irrera. **December 7-12** and **14-19,** Brian Regan. **December 28** though **Janeury 2, 1994,** Craig Shoemaker. 945 E. Birch Street, Suite A, Brea. 529-7878.

Orange County Crazies. Through **December 18,** "The Orange, the Bad & the Ugly," a satire of life in Orange County. **December 31,** "Orange Lang Syne '93," a yeer-end revue of improvisational and sketch pieces. Pacific Symphony Center, 115 E. Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana. 550-9900.

ART

Newport Harbor Art Museum. Through **December 5,** "New California Art: Lilla Locurto and William Outcault," featuring a collaborative installation piece; through **Jenuery 1, 1994,** "Artisan Showcase Holiday Exhibition," features the work of 16 artists from around the country; Through **Jenuary 30, 1994,** the Fifth Newport Biennial, featuring eclectic works by Southern California artists. 850 San Clemente Drive, Newport Beach. 759-1122.

UC Irvine. Through **December 11,** "The AIDS Show: Responses to a Crisis," a multimedia exhibit. UCI campus, Irvine. 856-6610.

Cal State Fullerton. Through **December 12,** "A Sense of Time, A Sense of Place," an exhibit of more than 40 early 20th century California paintings. Main Art Gallery, 800 N. State College Boulevard, Fullerton. 773-2037.

Orange Coast College. Through **December 16,** "AIDS Awareness Through the Arts." 2701 Fairview Road, Costa Mesa. 432-5039.

Saddleback College. Through **December 16,** mixed-media works by Holly Roberts. Art Gellery, 28000 Marguerite Parkway, Mission Viejo. 582-4924.

City of Brea Gallery. Through **December 17,** the National Watercolor Society's Exhibit. Brea Civic and Cultural Center, 1 Civic Center Circle, Brea. For more information, call 990-7730.

Stairy Sheiets Fine Arts Galleries. Through **December 31,** "Paintings of Mexico, 1920s-1990s," featuring the work of various artists; "Sculpture From Mexico, 1000 B.C.-1500 A.D.," featuring selections from the Stendahl Galleries of Los Angeles. 14988 Sand Canyon Avenue, Suite 1-5, Irvine. 733-0445.

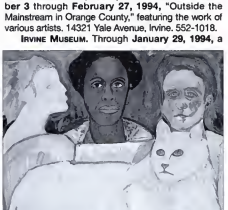
Orange County Center for Contemporary Art. Through **December 24,** the Juried Photography Show. 3621 W. MacArthur Boulevard, Suite 111, Santa Ana. 549-4989.

Severin Wunderman Museum. Through

December 31, "Jean Cocteau: Image and Idea," featuring more than 300 images and objects from various Cocteau collections. 3 Mason, Irvine. 472-1138.

Irvine Fine Arts Center. Through **January 20, 1994,** photography by Fritz Smith. **December 3** through **January 30, 1994,** Adi Yekutieli and Esther Zahn: ceramic sculpture by Atson Reeder. **December 3** through **February 27, 1994,** "Outside the Mainstream in Orange County," featuring the work of various artists. 14321 Yale Avenue, Irvine. 552-1018.

Irvine Museum. Through **January 29, 1994,** a



Helen Michlin's "That Darned Cat."

special holiday exhibit featuring California Impressionists. 18881 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine. 476-0294.

Laguna Art Museum Satellite. Through **March 27, 1994,** "My Culture, Our Culture," a mixed-media exhibit featuring the work of nine artists exploring the theme of cultural identity. South Coast Plaza, 3333 S. Bristol Street, Costa Mesa. 662-3366.

Richard Nixon Library & Birthplace. Through **April 10, 1994,** The White House 200th Anniversary Art Exhibition, featuring more than 50 works by students from across the country. Through **March 20, 1994,** "Image in Architecture," a special exhibit that celebrates the 200th anniversary of the White House. 18001 Yorba Linda Boulevard, Yorba Linda. For more information, call 993-5075.

Bowers Museum. December 4 through **January 10, 1994,** "Pageantry of Dolls," an encore exhibit of antique dolls. Through **January 17, 1994,** "Peru Before the Inca," an exhibit featuring ceramics, tapestries and gold work from the pre-Inca cultures of Peru. Through **January 16, 1994,** "Colors of the Dawn/Invisible People: Arts of the Amazon," an exhibit of the feather-working art forms of the Indians of the Amazon. Continuing **indefinitely,** "Selected Works From the Paul and Ruth Tishman Collection of African Art"; "California Legacies"; "Arts of Native America"; and "Visions of the Shaman, Song of the Priest." 2002 N. Main Street, Santa Ana. For more information, call 567-3600.

Muckenthaler Cultural Center. December 7 through **February 27, 1994,** "Model Ships," an exhibit of more than 50 ships ranging from ancient to modern. 1201 W. Malvern Avenue, Fullerton. For more information, call 738-6595.

Chapman University. December 9-17, the Fall Student Art Exhibition. Guggenheim Gallery, 333 N. Glassell Street, Orange. 997-6729.

Fullerton Museum Center. December 10 through **April 2, 1994,** "Five Decades of Fender: The Sound Heard Around the World." This mixed-media exhibit showcases the history of the Fender guitar. 301 N. Pomona Avenue, Fullerton. For more information, call 738-6545.

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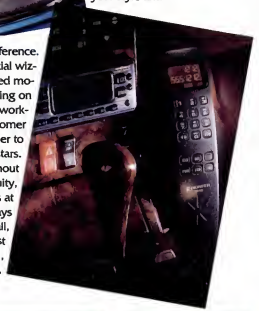
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CALENDAR

YORBA LINDA CENTRE GALLERY. December 11, "Welcome To the Jungle," an exhibit featuring various works by John A. Hanes, Barbara Kimmel and Jane Spiegle. 21520-B Yorba Linda Boulevard, Yorba Linda. For more information, call 693-7333.

SPORTS

LOS ANGELES RAMS at Anaheim Stadium. **December 26** vs. Cleveland Browns. 937-6767.

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS at Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. **December 12** vs. Seattle Seahawks. **December 19** vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers. 310-322-5901.

MIGHTY DUCKS at Anaheim Arena. **December 1** vs. Winnepeg Jets. **December 5** vs. Tampa Bay Lightening. **December 7** vs. Florida Panthers. **December 12** vs. St. Louis Blues. **December 22** vs. Dallas Stars. **December 26** vs. Los Angeles Kings. 800-HOCKEY-4.

LOS ANGELES KINGS at the Great Western Forum. **December 2** vs. Mighty Ducks. **December 4** vs. Tampa Bay Lightening. **December 8** vs. Florida Panthers. **December 11** vs. St. Louis Blues. **December 23** vs. Dallas Stars. **December 28** vs. Vancouver Canucks 310-673-6003.

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS at Los Angeles Sports Arena. **December 1** vs. Indiana Pacers. **December 4** vs. Los Angeles Lakers. **December 15** vs. Orlando Magic. **December 17** vs. Minnesota Timberwolves. **December 20** vs. Milwaukee Bucks. **December 22** vs. Washington Bullets. **December 27** vs. Philadelphia 76ers. **December 30** vs. Boston Celtics. 213-748-0500.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS at Great Western Forum. **December 1** vs. Dallas Mavericks. **December 5** vs. Minnesota Timberwolves. **December 7** vs. New York Knicks. **December 12** vs. Golden State Warriors. **December 26** vs. Houston Rockets. **December 29** vs. Seattle Supersonics. 310-419-3182.

UC IRVINE ANTEATERS. Men's Basketball: **December 2** vs. University of San Diego. **December 29** vs. University of Iowa. Women's Basketball: **December 3-4,** the Freedom Bowl Classic. **December 28** vs. Drake University. **December 30** vs. University of Colorado. 856-6202.

CAL STATE FULLERTON TITANS. Men's Basketball: **December 7** vs. Concordia University. **December 18** vs. Utah. **December 28** vs. Northern Iowa. **December 30** vs. Oklahoma Baptist University. Women's Volleyball: **December 1** vs. Stephen Austin. 773-CSUF.

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY PANTHERS. Men's Basketball: **December 7** vs. Whittier College. **December 10** vs. University of Redlands. **December 18** vs. Pomona-Pitzer. Women's Basketball: **December 10** vs. University of Redlands. **December 18** vs. Pomona-Pitzer. 997-6691.

CHRISTMAS WALK, December 5. The 17th annual walk through Corona del Mar features strolling carolers, bands, dance groups, refreshments and Santa along the route. E. Coast Highway, between Avocado and Poppy avenues, Corona del Mar. 673-4050.

DANA POINT CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE, December 11-12. Colorfully lighted boats cruise through Dana Point Harbor, Dana Point. 496-1555.

MISSION VIEJO NADADORES DIVING. December 11-12, Chris Vonk Memorial Invitational Diving Meet. Nationally ranked age-grouped divers compete. **December 27-31,** Mission Viejo Nadadores Diving Camp. Former Olympians and Olympic coaches instruct all ability levels in tumbling, aerial, springboard and platform skills. Mission Viejo International Sports Complex, Marguerite Recreation Center, 27341 Trabuco Circle, Mission Viejo. For more information, call 380-2538.

NEWPORT BOAT PARADE OF LIGHTS, December 17-23. Boats decked with festive holiday lighting parade through Newport Harbor. Newport Beach. For more information, call 729-4400. OC

custom comfort mattress company

By Jeanne Gormick

Years ago the Trudell Brothers, Mel and Marty of Custom Comfort Mattress company realized they were feeling uncomfortable about the mattresses their bosses expected them to sell. They saw a need to bring old-world craftsmanship back into the mattress industry. Their Mission Viejo factory store was born out of these early dreams.

Mel and Marty have each developed their own unique area of expertise within the industry. Marty has solid customer rapport techniques while Mel felt more in tune with production and delivery.

"The key to a comfortable, durable bed is the material used during construction," states Marty. Box springs are very important to the structure of a bed," continues Mel, "they protect the mattress the way shock absorbers protect a car. Therefore, the materials used to make a bed are important to the durability of that bed."

Together they have 24 years experience in the mattress industry. Not only do they offer the best quality bedding available, but their sales techniques are unusual too. They want their customers to be completely educated before purchasing, so they encourage them to ask questions; and then provide them complete instructions on which questions to ask during other comparison activities. As Marty explains, "We treat you the way we'd like to be treated. When you leave our factory showroom, you know what to look for and what questions to ask in other mattress stores. We encourage our visitors to comparison shop, once they know exactly what to look for. Customers who thoroughly read the law label, listing construction materials, and know what to look for, almost immediately recognize the difference between products."



"There is a big difference in warranties also," continues Mel. "Most mattresses provide a 'limited warranty' created to protect the manufacturer, rather than their customer. Our products are made skillfully by hand as we can really guarantee the quality that we sell. Everything is designed to protect the consumer."

"Our goal is to insure that our quality is excellent, not just 'good enough'. We want satisfied customers who will send others to us and return themselves for additional purchases. You see, if our product needs repair; we have to do that ourselves. We can't just send the work back to some factory across the country." Mel and Marty produce the kind of quality which makes a warranty almost unnecessary.

The Trudell brothers recommend that consumers ask questions about construction and inspect the manufacturer's factory, if possible. For a free consultation and tour of the Custom Comfort Mattress factory, please call them at (714) 855-6030. They are located at 23871 Via Fabricante, #402, Mission Viejo.

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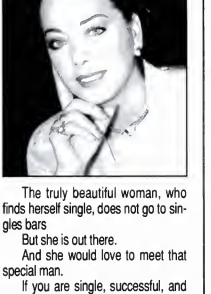
IMPOSSIBLE DREAM? You may be, but I won't know unless I look. You are to age 60, N/S, light drinker, financially very secure, weight proportionate to height, have gentlemanly manners, intelligence & a sense of humor. You are, like me, a hopeless romantic, sensitive, affectionate, creative, big-hearted, good-natured, spontaneous, sophisticated but down-to-earth; serious one moment, crazy the next. AND ME? I'm an extremely selective DWF, European, 46, 5'6", very attractive, Dynasty look one moment, Victoria's Secret next & sometimes a beach bum. If you exist, please send me a note. (South O. C.)

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MEN

SEMI-RETIRED, ROMANTIC DWM, 50's, 5'10", N/S, gray hair, easy-going, attractive, selectively seeks an intelligent, romantic lady, 40-55, for a committed, long-term relationship. Exchange note and photo. code **4154**

♥

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♥

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♥

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♥

AFFLUENT NEWPORT CEO SWM, 44, 6', 170, fit attractive, intelligent, fun. Seeks WF under 36, attractive, fun, intelligent with sense of humor. code **4161**

♥

DWM, 59, N/S, writer, ex-business owner, attractive, metaphysical, honest, seeks intelligent, achieving, classy, selective, petite lady to 60, for friendship or more. Exchange note and photo.
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♥

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